Welcome!

SLA Boston is finally jumping into the world of blogging! We’re really making an effort to increase communication throughout the chapter this year and this is one of the ways we’re making it happen… but we need your help & feedback to make it successful.

In addition to the emails sent on the discussion list, we’re going to post items of interest and items for discussion here; from program announcements and reviews of programs/other items to association information, spotlights of members/libraries, and Marian answering your questions. We also have a calendar of events on the right hand side.

I’d love for everyone to participate in the discussion, so post comments/questions back to us… get the conversation going!

If you’d like to blog for SLA Boston, let us know! Email us at slaboston@gmail.com.
SLA Boston Donates to Games for Health

August 22, 2008 Categories: News & Notes

SLA Boston is pleased to announce a contribution to the non-for-profit organization, Games for Health.

Games for Health is a project produced by The Serious Games Initiative, a Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars effort that applies cutting edge games and game technologies to a range of public and private policy, leadership, and management issues.

The Initiative founded Games for Health to develop a community and best practices platform for the numerous games being built for health care applications. To date the project has brought together researchers, medical professionals, and game developers to share information about the impact games and game technologies can have on health care and policy.

The goal of the Games For Health is to help foster and support a community of researchers, developers, and users of applications that use game, game technologies, and game development talent to create entire new ways of improving the management, quality, and provision of healthcare worldwide.

As part of that goal Games For Health also plays a greater role in helping to organize and accelerate the adoption of computer games for a variety of challenges facing the world today.

In addition to the Games for Health conference, the Initiative is working to catalog use of games in health care, to assist current development, collect best practices, share research results, and explore ideas that might improve health care administration and policy.

For more information about the organization, please visit the website: http://www.gamesforhealth.org/
SLA Applauds the Opening of Shuttered EPA Libraries

October 3, 2008 Categories: News & Notes

Press Release from SLA Headquarters

September 30, 2008
Following Public Outcry and Congressional Orders, EPA Headquarters, Chicago, Dallas and Kansas City Regional Libraries Open to the Public and Agency Employees

For immediate release

Alexandria, Virginia, September 30, 2008
Special Libraries Association (SLA), the first library association to denounce the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regional library closures, today applauds the agency for its efforts to restore service and collections in its regional libraries. Under congressional orders, and following an outcry by the scientific and library communities, EPA will again provide access to library services for agency employees and the public in 15 states and its own headquarters in Washington, DC, starting today.

"We are thrilled that after two years of diligent work by SLA and its members to educate EPA officials and members of the U.S. Congress on the importance of access to information, EPA is re-opening its libraries and restoring a much needed service for the public, business community and government scientists," stated SLA CEO Janice R. Lachance. "SLA, with assistance from our vocal members around the world and other allied library associations, remained vigilant in pushing the EPA to reexamine a short-sighted move that placed public health at risk. We are pleased with the direction EPA is now taking with its information network."

In its September 24, 2008 Federal Register notice, EPA states that these re-opened libraries "will be staffed by a professional librarian to provide service to the public and EPA staff via phone, e-mail, or in person...for a minimum of 24 hours over four days per week on a walk-in basis or by appointment."

"We are most pleased with the EPA's commitment to staffing the libraries appropriately with trained information professionals and librarians," said Lachance. "EPA scientists and researchers, other Federal agencies, state and local governments, industry and the academic community are just some of those who rely on the information in EPA's libraries to make decisions that affect everybody’s health. Simply digitizing materials and putting them online would not have met the needs of the community. The opening and staffing of these libraries is a happy new beginning to what started as a tragic story over two years ago, when we learned that the Bush Administration planned to cut funding for EPA's network of 27 libraries and information centers."

EPA will re-open its regional libraries in Chicago (serving the Great Lakes region), Dallas (Mid-Southern region) and Kansas City (Mid-Western region) after more than two years. In addition, one library in EPA Headquarters will re-open and include a small portion of holdings from what had been a free-standing chemical library, for research on the properties and effects of new chemicals, as a "special Chemical Collection."

EPA announced plans in February 2006 to close libraries and began to eliminate services and collections at regional facilities shortly thereafter. These actions continued until Congress intervened and directed the agency to reverse course in December 2007. In response to this order and criticism from SLA and allied organizations, EPA has undertaken an elaborate "National Dialogue on Access to Environmental Information" to develop a new Library Strategic Plan in December 2008, just before the Bush administration leaves office.
The SLA Centennial Video Contest

November 3, 2008 Categories: News & Notes

The Centennial Committee put together this fantastic video contest – what does the information professional of the future look like? Submit your videos – yours could be shown at Annual in Washington, DC! The deadline is approaching: December 15th. Details are below.

The SLA Information Professional of the Future

John Cotton Dana…1909…Bretton Woods…

The founders of SLA had a vision for how to fill the networking and educational needs of special librarians. With the forming of SLA in 1909, these fabled past leaders created an amazing professional association. For 100 years SLA has grown and transformed itself, and the association that started as one idea, by one person, now serves a global market of over 11,000 information professionals, librarians, and their partners.

In 2009, SLA celebrates its 100th birthday and as we look toward a second century of service, we are asking the questions:

- What will the next 100 years of connecting people and information look like?
- Can you peer into the future and see SLA’s leaders of tomorrow?
- Do you have an inspired vision of how SLA’s members will change in 25, 50, or even 100 years?

Celebrate SLA’s Centennial with your video representation of SLA’s information professional of the future.

Contest Theme

The SLA Information Professional of Tomorrow

Timeline

- Contest entry period: November 1 – December 15, 2008
- Finalists announced at Leadership Summit, Savannah, Georgia: January 14-17, 2008
- Judging of finalists by SLA members: January 14 – February 7, 2009
- Winners announced: February 15, 2009
- Winners presented and all entries displayed at Annual Conference: June 14-17, 2009

Prizes

There are two categories of entries: Student and Professional. The winning entry in each category will be awarded:

- $1,500 cash
- Up to $1,500 to attend the Centennial conference in Washington, DC, June 14-17, 2009
- Up to $1,500 for Chapter programming
- Up to $1,500 for Division programming

Complete rules and submission information: http://wiki.sla.org/display/CCWIKI/Centennial+Video+Contest

Promotional Video on YouTube: http://ca.youtube.com/watch?v=yXR-e2tiDQs

[Submitted by Dav Robertson on behalf of the Centennial Commission; David Cappoli and Tamika McCollough video contest coordinators.]

Information to Inspiration: Knowledge & Vision Shaping the Future

Celebrating the SLA Centennial, 1909-2009
SLA Diversity Leadership Development Program Award

December 4, 2008 Categories: Awards & Recognition

Posted on behalf of SLA Headquarters:

The SLA Diversity Leadership Development Program (DLDP) Award aims to accelerate the advancement and visibility of members who represent a diverse population of the Association by mentoring them for more leadership opportunities within the Special Libraries Association, to ensure that the Association remains vital, relevant, and representative of its diverse membership.

Recipients receive:

1. An award of $1000. The awarded money should assist with airfare and/or accommodations and may cover at least one SLA Continuing Education course.
2. Complimentary registration, provided by SLA, to attend the annual conference and specific ticketed events as appropriate.
3. An assigned mentor who is an Association leader.

To Be Eligible for the Award:

- Applicant must have been a member of SLA for at least 1 year.
- Applicants are eligible based on SLA’s definition of diversity, which includes but is not limited to race, ethnicity, physical abilities, religious beliefs and/or sexual orientation.
- Applicant must have at least 3 years of professional library/information experience.
- Applicant cannot be a current SLA DLDP Committee member.

Only applicants who meet all the eligibility requirements at the time of application are submitted to the DLDP Committee for award consideration.

Expectations of the Award Recipients:

- Award recipients must attend the SLA Annual Conference the year the award is given. (As part of the registration package, SLA will pay for the Awards Ceremony ticket.)
- Award recipients must demonstrate a willingness to learn about SLA and have the potential for leadership responsibilities.
- Award recipients should be willing to attend DLDP sessions and events at the Annual Conference and participate in a group photo session administered by SLA.
- Award recipients will attend the Breakfast Reception hosted by the DLDP Committee and the Annual Business Meeting on Wednesday morning at the Annual Conference.
- Keep in contact with the assigned mentor.

Application deadline: January 9, 2009
Applications are available at: http://www.sla.org/content/SLA/awardsrecognition/awardsdescriptions/dlpnomform/dldpnomfrm.cfm
For more information about the Award and previous Award recipients, please see: http://www.sla.org/content/SLA/awardsrecognition/diversityaward/index.cfm
A Great Party…A Great Year

December 5, 2008 Categories: News & Notes, Program Summaries, Programs

Last night’s holiday party/business meeting was a lot of fun. It was *fantastic* to see everyone there! The Asgard was a great venue – good space, great food, fantastic staff. The only downside? No mic. My throat is still a bit sore from having to shout the entire business meeting so people could hear me…hahah. Shouting above the Irish punk rock playing in the bar was no small feat, but we all got through it and it made for a short, straight-to-the-point meeting – much to people’s delight. 😅

I promised that I would post my thoughts from the year instead of shouting myself hoarse and making people sit there through 5 million thank yous – all of which are much deserved and worth repeating. I warn you, this is a long post.

On to business…

Our Sponsor: First, I would like to thank Dow Jones again for their generous sponsorship of the event, especially during these uncertain economic times. We sincerely appreciate their continued support of SLA and SLA Boston. Without our wonderful vendors, we wouldn’t be able to provide such important programs and events for our members. To Peter Ryttel and Scott Garland: thank you very much for joining us last night! It was great to have you there and, from what little I saw on table toward the end of the night, it looked like a lot of people stopped by to at least say hello.

The year in review…
This past year we had an incredible number of programs and events.

- We heard from both Mary Lee Kennedy and Stephen Abram about innovation in the early part of the year. We learned how we all as librarians and information professionals need to be innovative in our workplaces, with using technology, and with how we can rely on/encourage SLA to support us as innovators.
- We heard from our innovative colleagues at Fidelity on the tools they were using to connect with their non-librarian colleagues.
- In New Hampshire, we learned how to have successful negotiations when purchasing content thanks to Buzzy Basch, Toby Pearlstein, Rich Burke, and Bob Lucie.
- In Maine, Heather McCann, Jessica Baumgart & Ben Sawyer (Digital Mills / Games for Health) shared technology tools and showed us how emerging technologies are creating opportunities for non-entertainment gaming applications in business.
- In Western Mass Les Campbell shared information about the Quabbin Reservoir and his wonderful photography. It was a breathtaking presentation.
- We had a picnic along the Connecticut River in Northfield and dine arounds in the North End, Deerfield, Cambridge, and of course in Boston with SLA President Elect Gloria Zamora, where she shared some of what’s happening in the Association.
- The kick off party at Tia’s in Boston was a great time – a beautiful night to be on the waterfront!
Results of research of alignment project – watch it now

March 8, 2009 Categories: News & Notes

SLA President
Gloria Zamora and CEO Janice Lachance made a presentation at the Leadership Summit on the results of the research from the alignment project.

Watch it here: [http://www.sla.org/content/SLA/alignment/index.cfm](http://www.sla.org/content/SLA/alignment/index.cfm)

A transcript of their conversation and the slide presentation.

**Janice and Gloria's presentation:**
[http://www.sla.org/content/SLA/governance/bodsection/ceocorner/index.cfm](http://www.sla.org/content/SLA/governance/bodsection/ceocorner/index.cfm)
Wall Street Journal closes its news research library

March 8, 2009 Categories: News & Notes

'Librarian Leslie A. Norman, who lost her WSJ job, wrote on a listserv: "When I asked who will do research for the reporters, I was told, 'No one.'"
Woman’s Day seeks library stories

March 8, 2009 Categories: News & Notes

Woman’s Day magazine has announced a call for entries on a timely topic: using the library to help save money. From February 17 through May 18, women ages 18 and up are invited to send in stories in 700 words or less for a chance to be profiled in the March 2010 issue. Up to four women's stories will be featured.

Visit:
http://www.womansday.com/Content/Family-Lifestyle/ALA-Contest-Info-Rules

Librarians can download free tools to help collect local stories from the Campaign for America’s Libraries website.

http://www.ala.org/ala/issuesadvocacy/advocacy/publicawareness/campaign@yourlibrary/sponsorship/womansdaymagazine/economy.cfm
Call for Unit History Information for Centennial Celebration

March 8, 2009 Categories: News & Notes

Can you help us capture some of SLA's history? Has your Chapter or Division compiled your unit's history? Do you have a timeline for major events for your unit? If not, what better time to document this important information!

Please consider sharing your unit's information to enrich our Centennial website's content and to share these milestones with your fellow SLA members.

A Unit History submission form is available on the website at:
http://www.sla.org/content/Events/centennial/forms/unithistory.cfm
SLA Boston Survey

April 30, 2009 Categories: News & Notes
As of April 30, 87 people had responded to the Chapter survey. Of these:

- 37.9% attend SLA Boston events once or twice a year; 16.1% say "fairly regularly;" 20.7% "when they are in my area;" and 26.4% "not yet."
- 90.7% are interested in content programs; 53.5% networking events.
- Days of the week: Thursdays 63.1%; Wednesdays 60.7%; Tuesdays 54.8%; Mondays 46.4%; Fridays 28.2%; Saturdays 26.2%; and Sundays 11.9%.
- Times of day: evenings 74.7%; afternoon 36.8%; mornings 28.7%.
- Times of year: spring 59.8%; fall 58.6%; winter and summer both around 34%.

Other questions asked for preferred locations and for other comments. These responses were all over the place. The message seems to be that we should provide a variety of programs in multiple regions.

Thanks to all who participated! We now have a lot of information to help us with planning in the future.
Greetings! Where has the year gone? The Annual Conference in DC, which is also SLA's Centennial, is just around the corner. We hope there will be lots of SLA Boston people there, and that we can get together. Last year in Seattle we met for both a Dine Around and a Happy Hour, and hope to do something similar this year. Stay tuned; information will be on the listserv, the News section of this website, Facebook, posted on bulletin boards at the conference, and more. See you there!
27 Things To Do Before a Conference

May 22, 2009 Categories: Conferences

Chris Brogan recently wrote 27 Things to do Before a Conference. There is still time to get them all done before the start of SLA 2009 Annual Conference & INFO-EXPO next month.

Some of the ones to especially check out are:

- Check the online personal planner for sessions and descriptions. Go ahead and make a schedule, don't wait to get the paper version onsite.
- Start Conversations on Twitter, #sla2009 has 482 followers already! Join the discussions!
- Check out the exhibitors that will be in the INFO-EXPO. Our virtual exhibit hall has a listing of exhibitors. Map out who you want to visit!

There are many other tips that are useful for planning your conference experience. We look forward to seeing you in Washington, D.C., in just a few short weeks!
Meet up with SLA Boston at the Annual Conference in DC!

June 4, 2009 Categories: Conferences, Programs

Hi everyone — Come meet up with fellow SLA Boston members to relax and share impressions of the conference:

Where: Capitol City Brewing Company
Address: 1100 New York Avenue, NW (close to the Convention Center)
Date: Tuesday, June 16
Time: 3:00pm to 6:00pm

The reservation is being held for "SLA Boston" and all are welcome!

See you there!
Report from SLA Conference

June 29, 2009 Categories: Conferences

Molly Caple, winner of SLA Boston's Student Travel Award this year, has sent this brief report. We welcome submissions from other conference attendees!

"The 2009 SLA Conference was a great experience. The city, the speakers, the sessions, the open houses and the networking was all very valuable and served as a motivation to keep searching for a job and to make a name for myself in this profession. The inspiration that I spoke of in my essay was available to me at every event that I attended. Being in Washington DC for the centennial celebration was a once in a lifetime experience.

"I was very lucky to be able to hear General Colin Powell speak about his views on technology and librarianship. The sessions I attended on job searching, interviewing, using space in federal libraries, and new websites were all educational, and useful to my budding librarian career, but it was the informal meetings that were even more beneficial. I met some great people while standing around waiting for sessions to start, or while having lunch in the expo center, or while watching librarians dance at the IT dance party. Networking is a scary thing, but if you surround yourself with other professionals for four days, it just happens. "That is one of the greatest lessons I took away from the conference, how to have conversations with other professionals. If I were to sum up my experience in a sentence I would say it was 'educational, informative, fun, and exhausting.' I would recommend the SLA conference to anyone who wants to further their career and have a great time while doing it."

Molly Caple MLS 2009
Upcoming programs

July 16, 2009 Categories: Programs

Check our Program page for details, and mark your calendars:

Thursday July 23, 6-9 pm: Food, tours and federated searching at EBSCO’s “green” headquarters in Ipswich. Click Programs and Events for more information, or register at http://tinyurl.com/lkxxyk.

Wednesday July 29: Dine Around in Boston with SLA candidates for President-Elect. These are exciting times for SLA, with the Alignment Project and the upcoming name change. Come find out more, and meet with the candidates for leadership of our international organization, Agnes Mattis and Cindy Romaine. Details will follow.

Wednesday August 5: Gloria Zamora, current President of SLA, will meet members both in the morning at a breakfast meeting and in the evening for a Dine Around. Here’s your chance to learn more about your organization, the Alignment Project and all the ways it can help us better position ourselves in our profession, and share your thoughts. Everyone who has met Gloria knows what a dynamic, exciting person she is, so these are sure to be fun events as well as great opportunities to network.
Dine Around with SLA President Gloria Zamora, Wednesday August 5

August 4, 2009 Categories: Programs

*Dine Around Dinner with Gloria in Cambridge*

Wednesday, August 5, 2009
5:30pm to 7:30pm
Tavern in the Square — Cambridge, MA

Gloria will join us for a Dine Around at the
Tavern in the Square, in Porter Square, Cambridge, for a discussion of
the Alignment Project and other topics of interest to SLA Boston
members. Tavern in the Square has an eclectic menu so there is
something for everyone.

Tavern on the Square is located at 1815
Massachusetts Avenue in Cambridge at the Porter Square Exchange
building, just steps from the Porter Square T stop. And, free parking is available for up to 2 1/2 hours!

As with all Dine Arouns, the only cost is for whatever you choose to eat and drink. Please register here — http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=TJlyEMiX2GmTx6jGASpL0Q_3d_3d — by August 4th, if possible, so that we will have a firm count for the reservation — but walk-ins are always welcome.
August 21 Program in Portland ME: Visualizing Social Networks

August 10, 2009 Categories: Programs

Please join us in Portland, Maine on Friday, August 21st, for any afternoon session on "Visualizing Social Networks" with Ric Marshall, The Corporate Library's Chief Analyst!

Date: Friday, August 21st, 2009
Time: 3:00 – 5:00 PM following by a Dutch Treat dinner from 5:30-7:00 PM at Flatbread Pizza in downtown Portland, Maine
Location: Pierce Atwood LLP (additional directions below)

VISUALIZING SOCIAL NETWORKS

New web-based technologies are making it possible to study social networks and other types of related data visually, often in ways that highlight previously unrecognized connections and even the way those connections change over time. This presentation will briefly survey some of the software tools currently available in this area, such as Touchgraph, Osprey, and Hypergraph, a few actual applications such as the Muckety.com news site and the 3D Dewey Data Visualization Project conducted for the Seattle Public Library, and then move to a more in-depth, hands-on exploration of US corporate director networks using The Corporate Library's groundbreaking Board Analyst Leaderboard software, led by The Corporate Library's Chief Analyst Ric Marshall.

For more information, go to our Programs page.

Please register here — http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=J4ZIfDTQSiSFKz_2bS6NukFg_3d_3d — by August 13th, if possible, so that we will have a firm count for the reservation — but walk-ins are always welcome.

Many thanks to our sponsor, The Corporate Library!
SLA Boston Kickoff – September 24!

September 11, 2009 Categories: Programs

SLA Boston Chapter Annual Fall Kickoff - Sponsored by Dow Jones

Thursday, September 24, 2009 6:00-8:30pm

At Hotel Indigo, Newton Riverside – http://www.newtonboutiquehotel.com/

Join colleagues and friends for an evening enjoying refreshments and networking. If possible, please complete and submit the online registration form (link follows) by Tuesday, September 22 so that we may give an accurate count for catering. However, walk-ins are always welcome.

Register here:
Dine Around Thursday, October 15th. Learn about SLA’s Alignment plan

October 8, 2009 Categories: Programs

Join SLA members for a fun and informative dine around event to discuss SLA’s alignment initiative, and spend some time networking with colleagues over a dutch-treat dinner.

Where: Fugakyu – 1280 Beacon Street, Brookline, MA
(across Beacon street from the Coolidge Corner T stop on the Green C line)
When: Thursday, October 15, arrive between 6-6:30
Cost: Pay for what you order, no registration fee.

Note: Traditional Japanese floor seating

SLA Alignment: What’s In It for You?

Align in ’09! has been the rallying cry from SLA from the January Leadership Summit to the June Annual Conference to President Gloria Zamora’s August Chapter Visit. Even if you were at one or all of those events, you may feel like you were only teased with a bit of initial information, as SLA has begun to analyze the research it has collected.

What’s in a name? What do you think you should call yourself as a professional? What should SLA call itself?

What do you see yourself doing 5 years from now – in an ideal world and assuming you can achieve your dreams?

How do you define your value to potential employers? How do you measure that value?

Do you have an elevator speech?

Now is the time to learn more. Hope Tillman, former president of SLA, and currently the chapter’s Alignment Ambassador, will provide a short presentation synthesizing the Alignment research and make it easy to understand and then will answer your questions. Check out http://www.sla.org/alignment ahead of time or come for the quick overview without having to dive in yourself. However you choose to do it, this information will be important for the association as it moves toward a name change vote by the end of the year, and ultimately is important for your future as a librarian/information professional, or whatever you call yourself.
SLA Boston Program – November 17

October 23, 2009 Categories: Programs

*Ontologies for Knowledge Mapping and Discovery*

When: Tuesday, November 17, 5:30pm to 7:30pm
Where: Social Law Library — John Adams Courthouse, One Pemberton Square, Suite 4100, Boston

We will have copies of Brandy’s book available for sale for $70 (this is a 20% discount plus a small shipping charge) — we can only accept exact cash or a check.

Agenda:
5:30pm to 6:00pm: Registration, networking, booksigning, and snacks
6:00pm to 7:00pm: Brandy King, author of Finding the Concept, Not Just the Word: A Librarian's Guide to Ontologies and Semantics, will present an overview on ontologies: how they are different from other knowledge, how they are constructed, why they are useful, and how they are helping people find information. Matt Johnson from Harvard’s Center for Biomedical Informatics will follow by providing a specific example of how ontologies are helping scientists discover new information about autism.
7:00pm to 7:30pm: Questions and Wrap-up
7:30pm to ?: The Kinsale Pub
(http://www.classicirish.com/kinsale-directions.php)

Costs:
SLA/SCIP/ASIST Members – $20
Non-Member – $25
Between Jobs/Retired $10
Student $10

Registration:

Please register by November 15th if possible so that we will have an accurate count for the catering folks. Walk-ins are welcome but it is very helpful if you pre-register.

Payment:
Payments can be made through PayPal or by check. The paypal link is available on the registration form or checks can be made out to Boston Chapter/SLA and mailed to:

Alex Caracuzzo
SLA Boston Treasurer
Dewey Library for Management and Social Sciences Massachusetts Institute of Technology
77 Massachusetts Avenue, E53-100
Cambridge, MA 0213

Please send any questions about the program to Kris Liberman at k.liberman@verizon.net — thanks!
SLA Boston Annual Business Meeting

November 23, 2009 Categories: News & Notes, Programs

Date: Thursday, December 3

Time: 6:00pm to 9:00pm

Place: MIT Faculty Club (directions: http://web.mit.edu/facultyclub/about/directions.html)

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Fall Dinner Buffet:

- Yukon Gold Potato and Leek Soup
- Roasted Beet Salad, Chevre, Greens, White Balsamic Vinaigrette
- Grilled Pear Salad, Stilton, Candied Pecans, Orange Sherry Vinaigrette
- Fontina and Baby Spinach Stuffed Breast of Chicken, Lemon Thyme Jus
- Cider Glazed Pork Loin, Grilled Apples, Calvados Sauce
- Butternut Squash Risotto
- Roasted Root Vegetables
- Pumpkin Cheesecake, Heirloom Apple Tart, and Chocolate Flourless Cake
- Coffee/Tea/Cash Bar

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Registration information is here: http://tinyurl.com/slaabm09

We would very much appreciate your registration by Nov. 29th so we will have an accurate count for dinner. Walk-ins are always welcome but pre-registration makes the program planning a lot easier!

There is no charge for only attending the business meeting portion of the evening.

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Payment:

- SLA Regular Member – $25
- SLA Student/Between Jobs/Retired Member – $15
- Non-SLA Member – $35
- Attending Business Meeting portion ONLY: Free

Payment must accompany registration – please pay via PayPal or send a check when you register.

The paypal link is available on the registration form or checks can be made out to SLA Boston and mailed to:

Alex Caracuzzo
SLA Boston Treasurer
Dewey Library for Management and Social Sciences Massachusetts Institute of Technology
77 Massachusetts Avenue, E53-100
Cambridge, MA 02139

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Please send any questions about the program to Kris Liberman at k.liberman@verizon.net — thanks!
SLA Name Will Stay: Alignment of Association to Continue

Alexandria, Virginia, December 10, 2009 – The Special Libraries Association (SLA) announced the results of its association-wide vote on a new name today. Voting in record numbers, SLA members failed to approve a proposal to change the organization’s name to the Association for Strategic Knowledge Professionals. 50 percent of those members eligible to vote participated in the referendum, with 2071 voting yes and 3225 voting no.

“The active discussions, online and in local meetings, are a testament to the passion and commitment that knowledge and information professionals feel towards their association and their profession,” said Gloria Zamora, SLA 2009 President. “This level of engagement will help make SLA and its members more effective advocates for the information profession in the years ahead.”

The name change proposal stemmed from the findings of the Alignment Project, an intensive two-year research effort aimed at understanding the value of the information and knowledge professional in today’s marketplace and how to best communicate that value. “Our name will remain,” Zamora continued, “but we will go forward with developing opportunities for our members to use the Alignment findings to demonstrate their contributions to the organizations that employ them.”

“Information and knowledge professionals are critical assets to the organizations that employ them, yet their contributions and capabilities are too often underestimated,” said SLA CEO Janice R. Lachance. “The findings of the Alignment Project research will guide SLA in developing services and programs that will more successfully position these professionals in the marketplace and attract the recognition and compensation they deserve.”
2010 Student Travel Stipend – Deadline Extended!

January 27, 2010 Categories: Awards & Recognition

The Boston Chapter of the Special Libraries Association (SLA) is offering a travel stipend of up to $1,800 to a current student in library and information science to enable the student to attend the 2010 Annual SLA Conference. The conference will take place in New Orleans, LA during 13 – 16 June 2010.

No need to write an essay this year. You probably have more project ideas than you know what to do with, right? Why not submit one of them and win something that will benefit you on your career path? You don't even have to implement it – but if you wanted to, we'd help.

Think of an event that you'd really like to go to. Who would be there? Make it a whole panel of people. Describe how it would benefit information professionals. That's it, there's one idea.

Have you found yourself looking for something that you thought should be on the SLA Boston wiki, but isn't? Tell us about it! Write out the idea for a new section, what it would contain, where the information could come from (if you know), how members would use it, etc.

Wondering why we aren't using a particular tool on our wiki? Tell us about it! Why is it good? How would it benefit members?

More information can be found here: http://wiki.sla.org/x/RQFw

New deadline: February 28, 2010
From the Pres-Elect: Day 1 at the SLA Leadership Summit in St. Louis

February 3, 2010 Categories: Conferences

While President-elect Nancy Burt gets set up to blog, CommDir Heather added this post for her.

As the new president-elect, this was my first leadership summit. What follows is a summary of the notes I took, and my perspective on the different presentations during day 1 of the summit.

Janice Lachance started the day off talking about leadership as a choice and Lagniappe, or giving a little bit extra. She also highlighted the benefits of membership. I plan on having a webex session to remind SLA Boston members what's available to them, rather than listing everything here.

Next, Anne Caputo talked about Creating the Future — 5 Global Trends knowledge professionals should understand. We are a tribe that is (or should work towards being) people positive, interesting, inventive and persistent. She advised that change is constant, flexibility matters and attitude is everything. Here is my summary of her global trends:

- We live in a Globalized world, interconnected with personal networks and sites, facebook, multimedia formats, and digital word of mouth.
- This is a time of Distressed markets, including the housing bubble, bank solvency, stock market, unemployment and underemployment.
- We live with Disintermediation, defined as cutting out the middleman or elimination of intermediaries in the supply chain. There is a lack of recognition of what we do, and a rise of the individual. Millennials are invading, and who are they anyway? Is it a state of mind, digital natives, people who are always connected, multi-task and think 'all information is good?' Millennials live virtually, and are setting the digital trends. Four recommendations for the intelligent enterprise:
  - flow of information
  - information governance
  - improve quality of customer insights
  - use accurate and timely data from all part of the organization
- We live with Disruptive technologies, innovations that improve a product or services in the way that the market does not expect.

- Competition is growing. Who are they? Everyone. They are disruptive, self service, efficient. Why are they succeeding? Top 10 things done — use a search to find information, looked up the news, etc. What is our response?
  - Alignment findings– translate
into practical application and toolkits that we can use; understand our role in the world

- Focus on membership — growth, retention, differentiating benefits
- Emphasize sustainability — financial responsibility, professional civility

A Q&A session followed with these take-aways:

- Be a good communicator—it’s key to getting the information out
- Take risks
- Look at the CEO corner periodically—Janice Lechance’s presentations are there
- It’s not possible to over communicate — must not stop
- Take advantage of the First 5 years task force. They’re creating tools, and can also be applicable to job changers, retirees and unemployed.
- Don’t pigeonhole members, tools can be used by all, but perhaps with different emphasis. For example, retirees mean an organization loses institutional knowledge; the unemployed may take advantage of the career center, recently changed dues structure.

After Anne spoke, Maura Kennedy & Cara Schatz presented the Alignment Project Next steps: Communicating change.

1. New mission, vision core values:
   There will be work this year to update the SLA mission and vision statements and core values including: leadership, accountability & results, service, continuous learning, knowledge sharing and collaboration.

2. Action you can take now is a series of tips for all members

3. Working to create a uniform visual identity and common language guidelines for chapters and divisions to support our shared identity and common messaging

4. Working to create common templates, with branding guidelines, provide guidance about use of logo and tag line, news releases, and boilerplate text, basic speech for external audience, website and blogs, newsletters and bulletins.

5. Alignment project hopes to work with leadership on all steps. They’ve heard from us that we’re overloaded with information but also feel not gotten all the information. We need to find a balance, and the local leadership needs to relay the information to membership.

We also had a round table discussion about how to roll out alignment project efforts to members and communicate from HQ? What would work best?
A favorite part of the session was the keynote speaker, Jim Kane. He talked about building and maintaining loyal relationships. Jim started off by talking about himself, to develop connections with his audience. The core attribute of leaders is that they have followers. But how do you create a following?

Emphasis is on connections or familiarity. I associate with this person (what our brains do). But why do our brains make connections? Survival: the human race started in one place, then was able to spread out over 80,000 years because we work together. Working together also supports our survival as an organization — have to do it together. We had to determine who we could trust and our brains figured it out.

The relationship levels, from the bottom up:

- Antagonistic (the bottom, an not the ideal place to be)
- Transactional (an exchange)
- Predisposed (too lazy to look elsewhere)
- Loyal (top of the pyramid) equivalent with love in social life

Looking at relationships is difficult work and it’s not about satisfaction. How many relationships are happy that you do your job? Loyalty is a behavior, about the future, what can/will they do for you? Satisfaction is a mood, about the past, what did you do for them?

Three things essential for loyalty are:

- Trust — competency, capacity, character, consistency
- Belonging — need to work on and largest part going to discuss
- Purpose — vision, fellowship, commitment (is s/he going to follow through?)

Jim expanded on Belonging as:

1. Recognition – ‘do you know who I am?’
2. Insight
3. Proactivity – we are all appointments in someone else’s life. What can we do to move past that?
4. Identity – two sides, know who I am and find something similar— need to share parts of ourselves with them
5. Inclusion – people like to be asked, want to be part of the process and decision making, at least make the effort. Amazon and iTunes do this in a virtual world.
The keynote ended with a brief video about inclusion. He gathered information about different people in leadership positions at SLA, that were broadcast on the Internet in some form. My take away was no surprise: be careful what you put out there, anyone can find it!

I'll be posting Day 2 soon. I welcome any comments or insights you'd like to share!
Day 2 at the SLA Leadership Summit in St. Louis, MO.

March 1, 2010 Categories: Conferences

While President-elect Nancy Burt gets set up to blog, CommDir Heather added this post for her.

The day started off with Jill Strand who talked about The Ambassador Model: Growing a Grass Roots Effort. She described what an ambassador is:

- Passionate about the topic
- Utilizes multiple tools
- Is committed to positive dialog
- Engages people and encourage to explore all available information

And what it is NOT

- a brand ambassador
- a set agenda or a side
- more interested in being heard than understood
- would rather be right than win
- takes constructive concerns personally

The challenges of being an ambassador are energy, staying positive, knowing when to disengage, resisting the urge to take comments personally, identifying where people are 'at' while keeping dialog on key issues. There are ethics ambassadors, for information ethics, and share info with PR advisory and info ethics councils, took part in the Ethics summit at Seattle. And there are alignment ambassadors who should share alignment findings, respond to questions and concerns and share feedback with SLA leadership. (Side note: Hope Tillman is the SLA Boston Alignment ambassador)

Success means a clear job descriptions and goals, training, time, brainstorm tools for feedback, encourage members to communicate their thoughts directly. Ambassadors should be used judiciously, stress need for constructive criticism, be used when grass roots is needed, support diplomacy in ALL communication, take temperature of audience throughout the process.

The next session for Day 2 was about Chapter planning highlights. There were so many ideas that I couldn’t capture them all! Here’s a selection:

**Minnesota ideas** – A new board position “Chapter intelligence chair”. A program they called pickacreature. Folks get together, bring 15 slides, everyone gets a few minutes to talk about something that you’re passionate about.

**Philadelphia idea** – a wine & cheese social event with silent auction for fundraising

**European Chapter** — annual winter warmer pop quiz, a summer soiree, an annual breakfast at london online expo

Mary Ellen Bates then presented cool division programs. These are programs planned for the annual conference in New Orleans. These are spotlight sessions to be virtualized (subsidized by SLA)

1. Your personal brand & social media: using social media tools to promote and develop your personal and professional brand. Evolving role of informational professional.

2. Knowledge continuity and opportunities — Patrick Lamb Taxonomy and organizational effectiveness. km professionals, effective implementation of KM.

3. Brand You and Web 2.0 — how info pros make use of social networks to build their professional repuation, share expertise, establish credibility,
4. Tenure, how to get it and what it does for your career. A panel discussion — what does tenure mean, balance day to day with process.

5. Negotiating Up – achieving your goals with internal clients — strategies and tools for working with internal clients and negotiating with senior leadership, managing relationships.

6. Emerging technologies, realtime search — Legal division user content in social media is a rich mine of data, realtime information access, real time information management

7. Science of hot sauce — speaker who previously worked with Tabasco hot sauce

8. Ask CI experts panel — recent developments, Q&A, discussion of attendee-raised questions

9. CI transitions for LIS pros – successful transitioners, what recruiter/HR are looking for


There will be volunteering opportunities at the NOLA conference for half a day or a day for Katrina relief.

Next came the tidal wave of program planning information. I want to put the information from these sessions on the wiki, rather than here on the blog. The first section was Hands On Experience 1 — Attract and retain members. It was a panel discussion with Leigh Hallinby NY; Christina de Castell, Clare Lysnes (TOR); Gayle Gossen moderating. The second section, Hands On Experience 2 – Merging chapters and new divisions. Discussion included experiences from the Central PA and Philadelphia chapters merging and the combining of the Michigan chapters. The Academic division and Taxonomy divisions were examples about how a division is formed and the challenges they faced.

The last part of the day were the chapter and division cabinets session and a joint sessions. Here’s my quick notes:

approved agenda

approved minutes

remarks from the chair

trend — difficulty finding new leaders in the chapter, how to mentor and train; most are joining with other chapters, a lot with websites 95% with job. New member packet or out reach program.
Pilot project – webex to brainstorm topics to draw more members to leadership roles.

Actions at Board of Directors included:

- Accepted 2010 budget for the association
- Approved dissolution of inclusion caucus
- Several caucuses reapproved

- no deferred items

Chapter assessment task force is looking at how chapters might be restructured

Webex/communication resources for geographically disparate groups We currently pay for telecommunication by the minute — there are other resources that HQ will tell us about

Graphical representation about where all chapters are — working on it, don't know cost, more to come

Merging or restructuring — there is a process in place

Questions at the Joint meeting — drupal installation, working on it but lost web developer trying to find someone who can help out, wordpress platform? Stephen Abrams talked about awards rising stars and fellows and there was a reminder that the Diversity leadership award deadline is Feb 15th

Overall it was a jammed packed 2 days! I hope to make the most of what I learned, and look forward to the Annual Conference in New Orleans!
Event on March 23: Special Collection Discussion and Dine around.

March 11, 2010 Categories: Programs

When: March 23, 2010, 6 pm
Where: Lucius Beebe Memorial Library (345 Main Street
Wakefield MA 01880)
Dinner to follow at 7:30 at Duck Walk (397 Main Street, Wakefield, MA 01880)

Join us for an evening chat with Jeffrey Klapes, Head of Information Services at the Lucius Beebe Memorial Library in Wakefield, MA. Jeff will talk about issues facing the Treasure Room collection and the library's digitization efforts including a local history digitization project.

The Lucius Beebe Memorial Library is located at 345 Main Street Wakefield MA 01880 and is accessible by the Haverhill Commuter Rail line, as well as the 136/137 Reading Depot Bus from either Malden Center or Oak Grove Orange Line T stations. Street parking is also available.

Continue the conversation afterwards by joining us for a dutch dinner at the Duck Walk restaurant down the street. We'll walk over around 7:30pm

Duck Walk is located at 397 Main Street, Wakefield, MA 01880

There is no charge for this event beyond what you eat and drink, but we would appreciate it if you could register by Monday, March 22nd so we can make a reservation at the restaurant. Walk-ins are always welcome!

Register here: http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/WS8LDND
SLA Recognizes Five for Service to the Profession – including Boston's own Dee Magnoni!

March 11, 2010 Categories: News & Notes

SLA Recognizes Five Info Pros for Service to the Profession
Fellowship in SLA is Granted for Contributions to Association and Profession

Alexandria, Va., March 4, 2010 – Five leading information professionals—Rebecca Jones, Dee Magnoni, James Manasco, Jill Strand and Libby Trudell—are have been named as the 2010 Class of Special Libraries Association (SLA) Fellows.

Fellowship in SLA is bestowed on no more than five mid-career professionals annually in recognition of past, present and future service to the association and the profession. The 2010 Fellows will be recognized during the SLA Awards Ceremony and participate in a session and panel discussion alongside the 2010 SLA Rising Star award recipients at the SLA 2010 Annual Conference & INFO-EXPO in New Orleans.

"The SLA Fellows are a group of professionals of unrivaled intelligence and dedication, and I am confident that each of these individuals will continue to be an important asset to this organization and the profession," said SLA President Anne Caputo. "I congratulate and thank them for their service to SLA thus far, and I look forward to seeing what they do with their talent and drive as they move into the next leg of their SLA journey."

Dee Magnoni
Dee Magnoni has been an SLA member since 1992 and currently serves as chair-elect of Leadership and Management Division of SLA (LMD) and the past chair of the Engineering Division. She is the library director at the Franklin W. Olin College of Engineering in Needham, Mass. Hired as the library's first director eight years ago, she built from scratch many of its services and resources.

Magnoni served a term as a director on the SLA Board of Directors (2001-2003), chaired SLA's Professional Development Advisory Council (2005-2007), and was a member of the association's Finance Committee (2003-2005) and Nominating Committee (1999-2000). She served as president of two different chapters: the Boston Chapter (2005-2007) and the Rhode Island Chapter (1995-1996). She also chaired the Information Technology (IT) Division (2001-2002) and was the convener of the Information Futurists' Caucus (1999-2000).

Before joining her current employer, Magnoni worked in both business and engineering libraries in corporate and academic settings. Her previous employers include the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and Helix Technology Corporation. She received her MLS from the State University of New York, Albany and her bachelor's degree from Lehigh University.

This is an excerpt. Complete press release available here. http://www.sla.org/content/SLA/pressroom/pressrelease/10pr/pr1009.cfm
SLA Boston and Boston KM Forum are pleased to announce a joint program: KMF Café – Table-talking KM Challenges

April 19, 2010 Categories: Programs

SLA Boston and Boston KM Forum are pleased to announce a joint program: KMF Café – Table-talking KM Challenges

The topics for April’s symposium are:

- Avoid future crisis – How can business and application process documentation be kept up-to-date and in sync? (Technology-based projects, methods and practices evolve, change and expand)
  - Social networking redo – How can a failed collaboration implementation be successfully re-launched? (a pharmaceutical company case)
- Clinical practice experts online – What’s the next step in a collaboration infrastructure? (a health care provider case)
- Taxonomies – How can they improve enterprise search? (enterprise content behind the firewall needs better search)
  - “Library/information management” and “knowledge management” – Are these professionals’ competencies alike? and Do titles matter? (information professional positioning in the enterprise)
- Records management, knowledge management, and information management – Are they converging or diverging? (filling human resource requirements and team building)

Format:
There will be six tables, each with a case presenter (noted above) and moderator. The case presenter will describe the challenge as a mini case study and open the discussion with questions for the table audience. Over the course of an hour the moderator and presenter will "tease out" commentary, suggestions and innovative solutions. Attendees will rotate three times during the meeting to new tables and a different topic of interest. In the afternoon, moderators/presenters will share highlights of the case and commentary.

When: 8am–4pm April 29, 2010
Where: The Commons Room in the Adamian Academic Center, Bentley University, Waltham, MA
Cost: $50, if you pre-register. $60 at the door. Registration includes continental breakfast and lunch.
To register, please go to this page: http://s94896443.onlinehome.us/tinc?key=t0p0UHsg&formname=reg_bentley

For more information, please see the Boston KM Forum blog: http://kmforum.org/blog/?p=640

Special thanks to Bentley University, Elkin B. McCallum Graduate School of Business for its continued support of the KM series.
Boston Meet up in New Orleans during SLA 2010

June 10, 2010 Categories: Conferences, Programs

Are you heading to the annual conference in New Orleans? There was enthusiasm at the recent pre-SLA conference dine-around for a NOLA Boston Meetup. Here are the details:

Tuesday, June 15th

Rebirth Brass Band: http://www.rebirthbrassband.com/
– one of the most popular (and high energy) New Orleans Jazz/Second line acts performing at
mapleleafbar.com
8316 Oak Street
New Orleans, LA 70118
(504) 866-9359

The cover is $12 and doors open at 10pm, with the band starting up after 10:30pm

If we want an earlier meetup nearby for those who are hungry and not as compelled to dance right next door to the Maple Leaf is a must-eat:
Jacque-Imo's (http://www.jacquesimoscafe.com/)
8324 Oak Street
New Orleans, LA 70118
504-861-0886

We can plan on taxi-ing over together from the conference center (or from the French Quarter for those staying in that block of hotels). There will be a steady stream of taxi's returning from Oak Street, which has become a hopping night-spot away from the touristy strip.

We'll use Twitter and LinkedIn to stay connected at the conference! If you haven't already, join the SLA Boston Group on LinkedIn.

Hope to see you there!
SLA Boston and SLA RI are going to a PawSox game!

July 13, 2010 Categories: Programs

SLA RI and SLA Boston are pleased to announce a joint gathering on **Saturday, July 31st** at the 6:05pm Pawtucket Red Sox game at **McCoy Stadium** in Pawtucket, Rhode Island.

This is a family-friendly event, open to members and non-members alike! The more, the merrier!

David Stern, candidate for SLA President-Elect, will also be joining us. This is a great opportunity meet and talk with him, find out first hand what's going on in the organization, and let him know your thoughts and ideas.

We're ordering tickets soon, so act fast to get the group discount. Tickets requested before **July 21st** are only $6 per adult and $4 per child. Parking is FREE!

Register for tickets here: [http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/ZSCDR22](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/ZSCDR22)

Do you need a ride to the game? Can you give a ride to the game? Be sure to fill out the last form in the registration! We'll do our best to match those that need a ride with those that are able to give one.

Questions?: Contact either Nancy Burt, SLA Boston Pres-elect at nancy.b.burt@ gmail.com OR Lee Pedersen, SLA RI Pres-elect at laopedersen2@cox.net

Play ball!
Negotiating the E-journal Site Licensing Process: What Do I Need and How Do I Get It?

July 27, 2010  Categories: Programs

Register now for this exciting program being held on Friday, August 13, 2010, from 9am-1pm at the Radisson Hotel in Nashua, conveniently located off Route 3.

This informative program will cover some of the ins and outs of the ever-changing site license process. Representatives from British Medical Journal, New England Journal of Medicine, and Springer will answer your questions about site licensing.

Cost of the program is $25 for SLA members, $35 for non-members and $15 for those who are retired, students, or between jobs. Breakfast and lunch are included!

Register at:

http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/Y69RPLB

Registration deadline is August 6th.
Centennial Celebration registration deadline is Friday, September 17th

September 14, 2010 Categories: Programs

Friday is the last day to register for our Centennial celebration. Register today! http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/bsla100

On Tuesday, September 28, 2010, the chapter will celebrate our 100th anniversary and launch its exciting future for members in Connecticut, Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont.

Join us at 2 p.m. for an open chapter board meeting.

At 3:30 p.m. there will be a lively member-partner discussion on maximizing the vendor/customer relationship. Partners attending include Basch Subscriptions, CRCnetBase, Dialog, Dow Jones, EBSCOhost, IEEE, InfoCurrent, Infotrieve, LexisNexis, and Thomas Reuters.

At 5:00 p.m. will be Exhibit time, a chance to meet our partner sponsors and see what’s new and exciting. Cocktails will be served within the exhibits.

At 6:30 dinner will be served, and following that will be the centennial program featuring remarks from Anne Caputo, President, SLA, and Janice Lachance, CEO, SLA.

It should be a wonderful afternoon and evening. For additional information about the event, check out the Centennial website: http://units.sla.org/chapter/cbos/index.html

Let’s look forward together!
Developing an Effective Strategic Plan for Your Library Workshop

September 23, 2010 Categories: Programs

If your library doesn't currently have a strategic plan or you want to improve your existing plan, this workshop is for you!

Register today: http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/strategicplanworkshop

Pack your management toolkit with Developing an Effective Strategic Plan for Your Library, being held on Friday, October 22, 2010, from 1:30pm-5pm at the offices of Pierce Atwood in Portland, ME.

In this workshop, Cindy Sullivan, Principal of CSullivan Strategic Information Management, LLC, provides best practices training on the 11 elements of a successful strategic plan. Participants are divided into teams and through 10 interactive activities, they will learn to develop a plan for their organization. Topics include: four reasons to develop a strategic plan, 11 crucial plan elements, and tools and techniques for developing a plan. So, bring your mission statements and prepare to have a fun afternoon of informal learning with your colleagues.

Cost is $40 for SLA members, $50 for non-members and $30 for students/retired/in between jobs.

Registration deadline is October 1.

The dine-around following the workshop will be at David's near the Pierce Atwood offices, from 5:30-7:00pm.
Nominations Sought for 2010 SLA Boston Chapter Awards

November 4, 2010 Categories: Awards & Recognition

The SLA Boston Awards Committee is once again seeking nominations of chapter members for any one or more of the three following Awards, to be presented during the Annual Business meeting at the end of this calendar year:

**The Chapter Achievement Award** recognizes a chapter member for outstanding committee work, performance in office, or execution of event-related duties, during this particular program year.

**The Distinguished Service Award** recognizes a chapter member for a sustained record of supporting chapter activities over the years. These may be for service on one or more committees, by holding various offices, or for managing different events, that when considered cumulatively have notably furthered the life of the chapter.

**The Special Recognition Award** is conferred on longstanding chapter members as they cap their careers, and approach a well-deserved retirement, in recognition of what they have done or meant to the chapter.

Any member may nominate another member. The nominations need not be overly formal in tone, but should give enough detail to allow the members of the Awards committee to make a reasonably fair comparison among nominees. For more information and a list of past award winners, please see [http://wiki.sla.org/display/SLABOS/Past+Awards](http://wiki.sla.org/display/SLABOS/Past+Awards). Award recipients will be announced at the Annual Business Meeting.

Please have nominations to the committee by November 26th.

Committee Chair: Anna Burke, anna.e.burke@gmail.com
Committee Member: Maureen Festa, mefesta@gmail.com
Committee Member: Juliane Schneider, juliane.schneider@gmail.com

Please help us recognize our worthy colleagues!
It’s a busy time of year…

November 16, 2010 Categories: Programs

I hope you’ll spend some of your valuable time with SLA Boston colleagues. Don’t miss these opportunities to strengthen your professional network and participate in important Chapter activities:

- Dine around on November 18th at Squealing Pig, near Simmons College. Starts around 5pm. Register [here](#).
- Learn more about the SLA Boston Diversity Scholarship at a Coffee and Ice Cream social on November 30th at JP Licks in One Brigham Circle. Starts at 6:30pm. Register [here](#).
- Annual Business Meeting on December 7th at Jasper White’s Summer Shack. Starts at 5:30pm. Register [here](#).

And there are other chapter activities of note:

Nominations are still open for chapter awards. For more information, please see the [previous blog post](#).

Did you notice the new section on our website? There’s now a section for [Volunteer Opportunities](#) Check it out!

The SLA Boston group on LinkedIn is growing. [Join now](#) and start a discussion!
Chapter Awards and New Officers

December 30, 2010 Categories: Awards & Recognition, News & Notes

— Awards winners information is posted on behalf of the Awards Committee (Anna Burke, chair, Maureen Festa and Juliiane Schneider). Below is Anna's speech from the Annual Business Meeting on 12/7/2010 about the winners.

SLA Boston Award Winners

Gauri Govil

Gauri joined and became active in SLA Boston early in 2010. She took over responsibility of posting on Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn to keep information up to date and relevant. She also volunteered at the Centennial Celebration registration desk and added a section for Volunteer Opportunities on the wiki. Gauri identifies a need and takes the initiative to solve it! She’s also very personable.

So, thank you Gauri for all of your work to improve chapter communications this year!

Centennial Committee

I believe this is the first year an entire committee was nominated for an award. They were nominated multiple times, and they absolutely deserve it. I am, of course, talking about the Centennial Committee. Here are their nominations:

The Committee certainly did “outstanding committee work” having taken full responsibility for all aspects of the Centennial event planning. The venue was wonderful, the food delicious, the agenda worked really well, the chapter history was fascinating, the amount of vendor support quite amazing, and the member attendance was high. It was truly a significant event in the history of the Boston chapter, and the committee, who worked for over a year, certainly are “chapter achievers”!

The second nomination was for the 6 long-standing members on the Centennial Committee: Dee Magnoni, Jean Scanlan, Ruth Seidman, Hope Tillman, Ethel Salonen, and Ellen Cartledge. Each of their contributions (Jean for the state proclamations, Ruth for the history, Hope for overall coordination, Dee for vendor support, Ellen for information from CT, Ethel for the Past Presidents dinner) made the event a successful celebration for our chapter anniversary. All of them have helped SLA Boston grow into a successful, strong chapter.

Centennial Committee members:

Hope Tillman, Chair, Dee Magnoni, Jean Scanlan, Ethel Salonen, Ruth Seidman, Ellen Cartledge, Sidney McNab

Ethel also spoke about how integral Hope’s contributions were...and Anna mentioned just how long she’d been working on Centennial related information/programming – since somewhere around 2007-2008.

Nancy Burt

There is one other member of the Centennial Committee, but since she received another nomination for another aspect of her chapter work this year, I’m singling her out: Nancy Burt.

In addition to her hard work with the Centennial Committee, Nancy received a nomination for chapter programming. Here’s what her nominator had to say:

I’d like to nominate Nancy Burt for her outstanding work on program development. The sheer number and diverse program topics are unparalleled for the Boston chapter.

Nancy’s collaborative focus for the chapter has made great strides in reaching out to offer programs in NH, RI, Maine and more.

Nancy has organized programs reaching out to current members and retired members. As President-Elect for the SLA Boston chapter, Nancy has raised the bar on program offerings.

Nancy, thank you for all you’ve done for SLA Boston!

New Officers

Congratulations to our new officers! Khalilah Gambrell is SLA Boston’s new President-elect. Gauri Govil is the new Director of Communications. Unfortunately, Bob Risko resigned as Treasurer, however Matthew Burt will be filling in for the year.

Here is the slate of SLA Boston’s executive board officers for 2011

President — Nancy Burt
President Elect — Khalilah Gambrell
Past-President — Kristen Liberman
Secretary — Beth Giana
Treasurer — Matthew Burt
Director, Communications — Gauri Govil
Director, Strategic Planning — Paula Cohen

See you in 2011!
2011 SLA Boston Student Travel Stipend Competition

January 13, 2011 Categories: Awards & Recognition

Want to attend 2011 Annual SLA Conference for free? Are you a current LIS student?

The Boston Chapter of the Special Libraries Association (SLA) is offering a travel stipend of up to $1,800 to a current student in library and information science to enable the student to attend the 2011 Annual SLA Conference.

The conference will take place in at the Pennsylvania Convention Center in Philadelphia, PA during 12 – 15 June 2011 (http://www.sla.org/content/Events/conference/ac2011/index.cfm). The conference theme is:

Future Ready: Communicating value through strategic alignment; Leveraging technology for innovation; and Using knowledge sharing to encourage collaboration.

Qualifications, application process, and post award requirements are posted on the Awards and Stipends page.

Application deadline is February 28, 2011.
Happy 2011!

January 22, 2011 Categories: News & Notes

Happy New Year! 2011 has certainly started off snowy, icy and cold. Winter in New England isn’t boring, and this one hasn’t let me down. Instead, it’s allowed ample time to sit inside by a window with my computer and a cat or two nearby, and to think about SLA Boston’s goals for 2011.

January is a great time to set new goals. Here are three of mine for the chapter in 2011:

Name change

When the Connecticut Valley Chapter merged with the Boston chapter, changing the name to reflect our broader membership was discussed. At the time, it was decided that SLA Boston would retain the name until after the chapter’s centennial. We celebrated the centennial in 2010, and now’s the time to move forward with changing our name. You should see additional communications about this soon.

Improve Communication

I want chapter members to know more about what the board is doing, and to tell us how we can better support you. We also want to pass on more information from SLA headquarters about the organization and what other chapters and divisions are doing. This blog is the first of a regular post that I’ll be doing. You should also expect increased discussions on our LinkedIn group, too. Are there other ways you’d like to hear from the board?

Increase membership

Our membership numbers, like many other local professional organizations, have been slowly declining over the past few years. We haven’t seen a huge drop in membership, but enough that it will begin to have a financial impact if we don’t build up the membership. Fewer members means less money available for programs, networking events, awards and stipends. My target is to increase our membership back up to 500 by the end of the year.

I think these three primary goals will set a great foundation for our 101st year. Tell me what you think. Of course, you can comment on this post or email me (or anyone on the board). Our email addresses are on the chapter website. Or, board meetings are held the first Thursday of every month, and are open to anyone who wants to attend or call in. Not all meetings will have a physical location; some will be call-in only. I’ll be sending out reminders to the Boston listserv about the meetings with the conference call phone number. If you’re interested in getting involved, or just want to listen and see what the board meetings are like, call in!

Speaking of getting involved, there are several open positions on the SLA Boston board. There are regional programming and emerging technologies positions open on the programming committee. We’re also looking for people to help with student relations, new professionals, and communications. Responsibilities and time commitment varies, but any participation is greatly appreciated!

Khalilah Gambrell is working on the 2011 programming plan. She, and several other SLA Boston members, attended the SLA Leadership Summit this week. Watch for highlights from the Summit to be posted here, too.

Have a great week!
2011 SLA Boston Diversity Leadership Development Scholarship Award Winner Announced

February 17, 2011 Categories: Awards & Recognition, Stipends

This year’s Diversity Leadership Development Scholarship has been awarded to Molly McInerney. Currently, Molly is in her third semester in the Simmons College GSLIS program. She has been a member of the SLA Student Chapter since April 2010 with a strong interest in special libraries.

Applicants provided ideas in the form of a project plan or proposal regarding the question: “Celebrating Diversity: How would you encourage and celebrate diversity within the SLA Boston community?” Molly provided a detailed project plan on how SLA Boston can celebrate diversity by volunteering our wide ranging skills to local community organizations “that serve diverse groups or clients.” This year, the Diversity Committee along with Molly will collaborate on turning this plan into action. Anyone interested in joining this effort please contact, Khalilah Gambrell (kgambrell at ebscohost.com).

The committee wants to thank all applicants as all plans/proposals submitted were strong making it a difficult choice. Congratulations to Molly!
Notes from the SLA Leadership Summit

February 22, 2011 Categories: Conferences

Khalilah Gambrell, President-elect attended the SLA Leadership Summit earlier this year. Here are her thoughts and notes from the summit.

This year’s Leadership Summit was held January 19-22, 2011. The main theme of this year’s summit was the SLA President, Cindy Romaine’s platform – “Are you Future Ready.”

Future Ready, is an attitude to be more flexible, confident, and positive… “to focus on where the puck is going.” It is time to anticipate how managing or communicating information change and how we need to be aware of the impact in meeting the needs of our patrons, clients, or students. One cannot become Future Ready alone, it takes a community and thus the Future Ready 365 blog (http://futureready365.sla.org/). The blog’s objective is to have a member post each day.

Challenge to the SLA Boston Chapter: I would like to be a part of the chapter that has the most members who post to Future Ready 365. If you are interested in posting, go to (http://futureready365.sla.org/join-us) and if you are interested in collaborating on a post please send a note to slaboston at gmail.com and we will try to match you up with someone.

The following represent key notes from the meeting:

**Communication**
- SLA.org will be redesigned sometime this year
- SLA Chapters/Divisions/Caucus have the choice to move to WordPress platform
- SLA Boston – will move to the WordPress platform this year
- James King – will work as a consultant with one SLA Chapter not yet determined

**Programming**
- Increase Chapter/Division/Caucus collaboration with respect to initiatives and programs
- Partner with other library associations and other professional organizations
- Virtual programming has been fairly successful tools for other SLA Chapters
- Look at vendors as programming partners; work with them on developing programming and give them information as to what are the benefits of this partnership

**Building/Retaining Members**
- Call current members and thank them
- Call former members and inquire as their reasons for not remaining members
- Continue to engage with members not just at the beginning of the membership
- Conduct surveys that give you an accurate picture of your members and their needs
- Developing a strategic plan that is helps with long range planning and is also flexible enough for short range planning

**Annual Conference**
- At the Annual Conference, a day long session will be held for Philadelphia employers, as an opportunity for employers to learn more about our profession and value.
- The Annual Conference – is critical to the financial standing of SLA.
- Question for the Chapter – How do we encourage and increase SLA Annual Conference attendance?

What was learned at this summit we hope to incorporate into 2011 SLA programming, membership retention, communication, collaborative efforts, and beyond. We also hope to hear from members as to how they become “future ready” and how we as a chapter can become so too. In addition, we hope to hear from members as to what we can do to bring value to the profession and SLA. I hope to see many of you at the March 30th Heather Hedden talk.

Khalilah, SLA Boston President – Elect
An Introduction to Taxonomies for the Accidental Taxonomist: A Talk by Heather Hedden

March 22, 2011 Categories: Programs

Wednesday, March 30, 2011 from 5pm to 7pm, at the Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research Auditorium, **Heather Hedden**, chair of the Mentoring Committee of the Taxonomy Division and author of the book, *The Accidental Taxonomist* will present:

**An Introduction to Taxonomies for the Accidental Taxonomist.** This presentation, along with a **hands-on exercise** will provide folks new to taxonomy with knowledge and tools regarding:

- taxonomies, controlled vocabularies and thesauri
- different types and applications of taxonomies
- basic structure of how to create a taxonomy
- best practices for creating terms and relationships
- taxonomy management tools

The program is sponsored by SLA Boston Chapter, SLA Taxonomy Division, and Curata by HiveFire, Inc.


**Following the event,** please join us at **The Friendly Toast** for a Dine Around. RSVP for Dine Around: [http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/3302011dine](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/3302011dine)
SLA Boston Programming Committee Needs You!

March 31, 2011 Categories: News & Notes

Want to help out with a Program? Have an idea for a program that you want SLA Boston to pursue? Then consider joining the Programming Committee. Opportunities range from staffing a registration table to blogging to defining the agenda to identifying locations and speakers. As a volunteer, you are not committed to planning all events; feel free to pick or choose an event.

Benefits to joining the committee:

- Volunteers for a program attend for free
- Great way to meet fellow members
- Develop and enhance your facilitation, collaboration, presentation, and project management skill
- Great way to become a leader and advocate within SLA and the information professional field

To see available opportunities go to the Program Planning page on the SLA Boston website.
Proposed Name Change for SLA Boston

April 26, 2011 Categories: News & Notes

The chapter has a decision to make about our name

After our Centennial in 2010, the SLA Boston board voted to propose a chapter name change from SLA Boston to SLA New England (SLA NE) in 2011. This name change requires a vote by chapter membership at/before our annual business meeting.

Why do we want to change our name?

SLA Boston supports members throughout New England through outreach and planning programs. In 2010, we planned events around the region and held programs or dine arounds in Western Mass, New Hampshire and Maine.

We hope that this name change will better reflect our support of SLA members who live or work in Connecticut, Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, and Western Massachusetts in addition to Boston. We also strongly hope that this name change will encourage SLA members across New England to help plan programs and participate on the chapter board. Monthly board meetings are open to everyone and, except in rare occasions, have a conference call to dial-in. We need active participation from people in different geographic region to provide quality programming and build local communities.

What is the official process?

First, our chapter bylaws will be revised to reflect the proposed name change and sent to the SLA Bylaws Committee for review, comments and approval. If approved, the Executive Committee of the chapter then votes to approve the bylaws. The chapter board presents the bylaws to the chapter membership. The chapter votes to accept the revised bylaws in December 2011 at our Annual Business Meeting, date to be announced; we will offer an electronic voting option for those unable to attend the business meeting. A two-thirds majority is needed to accept the new bylaws. After approval, the bylaws are signed by the chapter president and copies are sent to HQ for additional signatures. The name change would then be official.

What about SLA Rhode Island and Fairfield County Connecticut chapters?

The Rhode Island and Fairfield County Connecticut chapters remain independent SLA units. As good neighbors, we want to connect with Rhode Island and Fairfield County to promote their activities and work together to provide programming and services to all SLA members.

What do you think?

Do you like the proposed name? Have concerns, comments or questions?

There are several ways to get us your feedback:

- Comment on this blog post
- Add a comment on the chapter wiki here: http://wiki.sla.org/display/SLABOS/Name+Change+Discussion
- Start a discussion on LinkedIn or Facebook
- Send an email directly to a board member
- Provide anonymous comments here: http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/SLABostonproposednamechange
Idea Exchange Recap

August 24, 2011 Categories: News & Notes, Program Summaries

The following post is Paula Cohen's account of the August 11th Idea Exchange program. Paula Cohen is SLA Boston's Director of Strategic Planning.

Idea Exchange, a SLA Boston program held August 11th, was a collaborative exercise that allowed attendees to discuss a challenge/issue in small groups and present ideas/solutions to all attendees. The program was graciously hosted by Dee Magnoni, Library/Knowledge Lab Director of the Franklin W. Olin College of Engineering Library, past president of SLA Boston, and current chair of Leadership and Management Division. We also had the pleasure of SLA President-Elect Candidates, David Cappoli and Deb Hunt’s attendance as the two joined the collaborative discussion, offering excellent insights and perspectives to all groups.

We were all asked to come to the program with one question as a discussion topic. In all, the topics sorted into 4 main categories: Professional development, Value of the profession in relation to Information Overload, Retirement – transition concerns, and Vendor/Publisher fluidity and Budget concerns.

As the program announcement promised, the format was an experiential and engaging dialogue among attendees. The forum provided an opportunity for participants to converse with peers about challenges and/or issues they’re facing and to learn best practices, ideas, and solutions to overcome them.

I joined the “Professional Development” group where our discussion centered on a group member’s dilemma – her role as an Information Specialist, a role she has held for seven years, was expanding and evolving toward a new area. This brought up common threads we’ve been hearing about and many of us face around coping with change, learning new of skills and software, and new expectations. While this new direction set off a strong current of trepidation, all of us in the group concurred that she was headed in the right direction, and will be acquiring highly marketable skills. The program was a great opportunity and safe forum for her to air her concerns. We achieved the mission and more with the attendee leaving satisfied, with a positive perspective to carry to her work.

The capstone of each topic discussion involved summarizing the key points. Examples from the Retirement and Value of the Profession groups:

**Retirement group takeaways:**
- Have a transition plan
- Disseminate critical information to team and others
- Place key staff in leadership roles
- Mentoring and grooming staff for leadership roles is very important

**Value of Profession takeaways:**
- Information professionals can position themselves as experts to help contend with information overload
- Find out about your non-users; seek opportunities to outreach to this group to convert them to users.
- Understand the process of how your users use information
- Assist with information needs being conscious of individual characteristics and behavior
- Informal communications are very effective
- Meet them (end users) where they are

As always with events like these, the time seemed to evaporate too quickly. Let’s encourage Khalilah to think of the August 11th event as the first in a series.

Following the program, Dee guided us on a tour of the innovative and exciting Olin Library, offering us a glimpse into a unique academic experience at Olin.

Pictures from the event will be posted shortly.

**Let’s continue the idea exchange online.** Do these issues/concerns echo similarly to yours? What ideas/solutions do you have that address these issues/concerns? We look forward to your comments on LinkedIn or to the blog post.
Welcome to the SLA New England Community

As Chapter President, I like to welcome everyone to the SLA New England Chapter website. Since 1910, our chapter has a long standing tradition of supporting the professional development and continued growth of librarians and information professionals.

Our chapter covers Maine, Vermont, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, and Connecticut (except for Fairfield County) and has well over 300 members and counting. We strive to have events and resources that service all members whether on this website, in person or a virtual program.

The intent of this website is to provide information and support to prospective, current and retired librarians. We hope visitors will feel a part of a community and start to Communicate, Collaborate, Commit with each other on the site, at in-person programs and via our listserv, Twitter, Facebook or LinkedIn.

Lastly if you have any questions, please send an email to slanewenglandATgmail.com.

Regards and once again Welcome,

SLA New England Chapter Executive and Advisory Board.
2011 Fall Kickoff Recap

September 22, 2011 Categories: News & Notes, Program Summaries

The following post is Brandy King’s account of the September 21st Fall Kickoff Reception. Brandy runs her own business as an on-call librarian and is the chair-elect of SLA’s Social Science Division.

Every June at the SLA conference, I attend the Boston Chapter meetup. I have fantastic conversations, remember how much I love hanging out with this crowd, vow to see them more often, and then promptly forget about professional networking for two months while I soak up the Summer. So I always look forward to the chance to finally meet up again with my SLA Boston colleagues at the Fall Kickoff event!

This year, 35 chapter members attended the event which was held at Scholar’s, an awesome bistro with two floors, billiards, and absolutely delicious arancini rice balls. Toby Pearlstein, Liz Peoples, Catherine Boothby, John Aubrey, and Nancy Burt took to the pool tables while a group of SLA @ Simmons students worked on their entries for the treasure hunt competition. Old friends got the chance to catch up on Summer happenings while others took advantage of the networking to talk about job opportunities and collaboration.

At the end of the night, three winners were rewarded with treasure for their efforts in the trivia competition:

- Stefanie Maclin won 2 tickets to the SLA Boston Annual Business Meeting on December 8th
- Kris Liberman won a $25 Amazon gift card from PubGet
- Matt Burt won a $25 American Express gift card from LexisNexis

Many thanks to President-Elect Khalilah Gambrell, who took the lead on planning yet another fun and successful program for our chapter. To see what else is in store, check out the Upcoming Events section of the website and save the dates!
November 10th Program: Hidden Career Opportunities for Librarians and Information Professionals sponsored by Thomson Reuters

October 17, 2011 Categories: Programs

As librarians and information professionals, we have highly desirable skills in the workplace across a variety of institutions and organizations. Yet traditional job titles are disappearing and new job titles with different responsibilities and titles are replacing them. Organizations and institutions are looking for candidates that have the skills we offer but are not using "traditional" library and information professional terminology.

This event will kickoff a panel composed of librarians in non-traditional careers to discuss the question: How do you find these hidden career opportunities?

Speaker: Paula Maloney, Sourcer, Executive Search, Global Talent Acquisition, EMC Corporation

Panelists:

- Maureen Festa, Senior Development Research Analyst, Office of Development and Alumni Relations, Boston University
- Matt Johnson, Senior Program Manager for Taxonomy and Information Standards, eServices division, EMC Corporation
- Eve Miller, Director of Collection Development, EBSCO Publishing
- Laurie Rotman, Information Resources & Management, Draper Laboratory

Program Objectives:

- Learn from librarians in non-traditional positions what careers are in need of librarians
- Learn how to find these opportunities and address what these employers want
- Learn how to tailor your resume and interview for non-traditional opportunities

Date: Thursday, November 10th
Time: 6:00pm – 6:45pm (networking and appetizers), Program begins at 6:45pm and ends 8:30pm

Location: Thomson Reuters, Boston office, 22 Thomson Place

Public Transportation: Courthouse Station Silver Line or South Station Red Line

Cost

- Student/retiree/in-between job rate: Free
- SLA/NEASIS&T Member: Free
- Non-member: $15

Registration: Please RSVP by Friday, November 4th

Contact: Khalilah Gambrell, gambrell9899 AT SIGN gmail.com
October 26th Program Reminder: Toby Pearlstein and Jim Matarazzo Talk: The Corporate Library in Turbulent Times, co-sponsored by Business & Finance Division

Join us as Jim Matarazzo, Dean & Professor Emeritus at Simmons College Graduate School of Library and Information Science and Dr. Toby Pearlstein, Former Director, Global Information Services (Retired) at Bain & Company bring their 2011 SLA Annual Presentation to Boston.

2011 SLA Annual Conference Program Description:
"Cutbacks and reductions in corporate library budgets have increased, fueled by the erratic economy and unprecedented bankruptcies, mergers, and acquisitions. Based on research for their articles in Searcher magazine, the speakers will present specific survival skills for corporate libraries/librarians, including alternate sourcing, scenario planning and aligning with the parent organization (especially how to understand alignment and foster and demonstrate it). The balanced scorecard will be reviewed as a strategic data-gathering tool to support survival. This presentation is for all information professionals who want to learn how to adapt and avoid being marginalized."

SLA Annual Conference Recap from Information Today

Date: Wednesday, October 26th
Time: networking with appetizers from 5:30pm to 6pm and presentation from 6pm to 7:30pm
Location: Social Law Library, 1 Pemberton Sq # 4100, Boston, MA 02108-1792 (driving directions)
Public Transportation: State (near City Hall side) or Government Center

Cost
- Student/retiree/in-between job rate: $5
- SLA/NEASIS&T Member: $10
- Non-member: $20

Registration: Please RSVP by Friday, October 21st

Dine Around: after presentation, attendees may join us for dinner at a local restaurant. More details to be provided.

Contact: Khalilah Gambrell, gambrell9899 AT SIGN gmail.com
Want a forum to converse with peers about challenges you are facing?

Want to learn from peers best practices, ideas, and solutions to overcome them?

Join peers for a collaborative discussion on these questions with the objective that attendees come away with ideas that they can apply to their professional development or in their workplaces. It’s a can’t-miss program that we hope is the basis for continued dialogue via in-person and virtual events. Food will be included.

Prior to the Idea Exchange, a discussion regarding the chapter will be held to discuss 2012 programming and other initiatives.

Date: Wednesday, November 16th
Time: 5:30pm – 6:15pm Chapter Discussion followed by Idea Exchange event 6:15pm-7:45pm, food will be served
Location: Simsbury Public Library, Program Room 2, 725 Hopmeadow Street, Simsbury, CT
Directions: http://www.simsburylibrary.info/about.htm#Directions
Cost: Free
RSVP: Please register by Friday, November 11th for the event – http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/ctideaexchange2011
Contact: Khalilah Gambrell, gambrell9899 AT SIGN gmail.com

To learn more about the Idea Exchange read accounts from attendees of the event held at Olin College on August 11th

2011 SLA Boston Annual Business Meeting scheduled for December 8th

November 17, 2011 Categories: Programs

Join us for the 2011 Annual Business Meeting. We will be electing a President-Elect and Treasurer along with honoring outstanding SLA Boston members. Members will also vote on the name change from SLA Boston to SLA New England.

**Date:** Thursday, December 8th

**Time:** 5:45 to 6:15 for networking, 6:15 to 7:00 business meeting followed by dinner

**Location:** Stanford Calderwood Pavilion at the Boston Center for the Arts, 527 Tremont Street, Boston, MA

**Public Transportation Options:** Commuter Rail Stop: Back Bay, Subway Stops: Back Bay or Copley, Bus Stop: 9, 39, 43

**Directions and Parking Options:** [http://www.huntingtontheatre.org/visit/directions/pavilion.aspx](http://www.huntingtontheatre.org/visit/directions/pavilion.aspx)

**Cost**
- Annual Business Meeting Only: Free
- **Dinner**
  - Student/In between jobs/Retiree: $15
  - SLA/NEASIS&T member: $25
  - Nonmember: $40

**Valet Parking:** For members, students, retirees, and folks in-between jobs, valet parking will be available for an additional $10. Non-members the cost is $15.


**Contact:** Khalilah Gambrell gambrell9899 AT SIGN gmail.com
Hidden Career Opportunities for Librarians and Information Professionals: 5 Tips from the Pros

November 28, 2011 Categories: Program Summaries

The following post was written by Candice Kortkamp. She studies cataloging, metadata, and research methodology at the Simmons College Graduate School of Library and Information Science.

Librarians and information professionals possess highly transferable skills that are applicable to a wide range of workplace environments. As traditional roles are rapidly being replaced with new titles and responsibilities, it can be challenging to know where to begin a job search. Though they may be looking for candidates that have the skills that librarians offer, organizations and institutions often do not use “traditional” library and information terminology in their job descriptions.

The Special Libraries Association, Boston Chapter had this in mind when it presented the 2011 “Hidden Career Opportunities for Librarians and Information Professionals” event featuring a panel of information professionals in non-traditional careers.

The following is a recap of what the professional panelists suggest for taking advantage of hidden career opportunities in non-traditional library fields:

Apply for Jobs You Appear to be Unqualified For

Matt Johnson works as Senior Program Manager for Taxonomy and Information Standards in the eServices division of EMC Corporation. His favorite aspect of his current position is having a hand in custom metadata management. But most of what he does he learned on the job. For this reason, coupled with the knowledge that most employers are novices at writing job descriptions, Johnson emphasizes that there is value in applying for jobs you appear to be unqualified for. “Be honest about your limitations, but know what you have to offer,” he says. “If you see yourself fitting into that role, think of someone else seeing you in that role.”

Know Your Worth

Librarians are “trained to recognize relevant information, analyze it, package it, and deliver it,” says Paula Maloney whose current position as an Executive Search Sourcer for Global Talent Acquisition, EMC Corporation, allows her to implement the sleuthing talents she attributes to sound discipline learned in library school.

Don’t Worry if “Librarian” isn’t in the Title

This piece of advice, received from a professor at Simmons College, pushed Eve Marie Miller to search for jobs beyond traditional librarian positions. She now works as Director of Collection Development at EBSCO Publishing where she is assisting with the transition associated with the H.W. Wilson acquisition. Miller recommends following the S.M.A.R.T. acronym for resume writing, strategically updating each resume you send out to reflect specific skills and measurable accomplishments.

Be prepared for EVERY opportunity

Some people call this “Networking.” Others may advise putting together an “Elevator speech.” Maureen Festa simply encourages, “Know your strengths; know what you love to do,” and be prepared to communicate this knowledge in unexpected situations. Festa began her career in reference at BPL’s Kirstein Business Library, where she decided that she loved doing research. She advises dressing well and carrying business cards to every event you attend – this is how she landed her current job as Development Research Analyst at the Office of Development and Alumni Relations, Boston University. She now applies her passion for information seeking toward conducting prospect research.

Get certified

Panelist Laurie Rotman has been with Draper Laboratory since pre-World Wide Web days when she worked on developing the company intranet. Though she says it was far from anything she ever thought she’d be interested in, she loves that her position in Information Resources and Management affords her the “opportunity to take risks and try new things.” She highly recommends Project Management Institute (PMI) Certification for library and information professionals to learn new skills, get involved in a network, and expand opportunities.
Cannot attend the Annual Business Meeting in-person? Join us online.

December 6, 2011 Categories: Programs

For the Annual Business Meeting, we will offer members unable to attend, the ability to participate via web.

Date: Thursday, December 8th
Time: 6:15pm to 7:30pm

Please register for the web meeting by 4pm on December 8th: https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/368494273

Agenda: The business meeting will begin at 6:15pm, and include several votes (e.g., to approve the 2010 minutes, the 2012 slate of officers, and the bylaws changes). For web meeting participants, we will use the polling feature during the votes to get your responses.

The web meeting will be more like a webinar than a conference call. Web meeting participants may use the chat feature, ‘question’ feature or ‘raise their hand’ if you need to ask a question. The moderator of the meeting will then unmute you if needed.

**Note:** Our bylaws and chapter practices indicate that the bylaws approval takes place at a business meeting, and requires a 2/3rds majority vote of members attending. This means that there will not be a separate surveymonkey or poll to vote on the Bylaws change.
Annual Business Meeting: Incoming Chapter President Khalilah Gambrell’s remarks

December 8, 2011 Categories: News & Notes
Excerpts from Khalilah’s remarks at the 2011 Annual Business Meeting.

Thank you all for your support and faith in me to lead SLA New England. I am deeply honored and take the role with a deep and earnest commitment to provide tools and resources to all of our members and to promote these tools and resources to folks who are not members today. With that commitment, the theme for next year is to be action oriented. Together I want us to strive to **Communicate, Collaborate, and Commit.**

**Communicate** - who we are within the chapter and beyond. We must empower members with skills to articulate the value of the profession within and outside their organizations and job positions.

**Collaborate** – our chapter is made up of tremendously talented people. It is critical that we develop resources and an approach to allow a member in Vermont to connect with members in Framingham and New Haven. Divisions can do this, why cannot we? We need to put on a full court press to build bridges that truly connect all members of SLA New England. We need to utilize the liserv, Linkedin, Facebook, web meetings, and the new website.

**So how do we communicate and collaborate? We as a chapter must commit.** Each person has to commit to at least one action however small or big that moves us forward. Couple examples of what I mean...

- Post or answer a question on the listserv
- Share your knowledge with other members
- Send job positions to Juliane ([slaboston.jobs@gmail.com](mailto:slaboston.jobs@gmail.com))
- Help other members who are looking for jobs
  - Provide career advice
  - Critique a resume
  - Conduct a mock interview
- Connect with LIS students (ex. be a DOTJ host)
- Mentor new leaders
- Promote upcoming events (ex. retweet, share on FB)
- Invite a friend/colleague to join SLA

In the next couple of weeks, I will send a message unveiling more details regarding how our chapter will communicate, collaborate and commit in 2012.

It not only benefits the chapter but it enhances your professional presence. You are letting your talents and knowledge shine.

If we all commit, our first year under the name, SLA New England will set the tone for an exciting time in our chapter. Thank you again for your support and faith.
Happy Holidays Everyone!

Last night was a historic night as the Chapter voted overwhelmingly to change its name from SLA Boston to SLA New England at the 2011 Annual Business Meeting held at the Calderwood Pavilion in Boston. The vote was passed by a majority of members who attended in-person and online. The revised bylaws have been submitted to the Bylaws Committee and once signed and returned, the name change will be official! We are very appreciative to Past President Nancy Burt for leading the chapter through the name change.

Awards

Several members were recognized for their outstanding contributions to the chapter.

Khalilah Gambrell received the Special Recognition Award for her contributions to the chapter and breadth of programming this year.

Ann Cullen and Mary Chitty received the Distinguished Service Award given to “an individual who has, consistently over the years, given her time and efforts to ensure the continuing success of the Chapter.”

Devon McArdle and Roger Magnus were honored with the Chapter Achievement Award — given to “an individual who has done an outstanding job in his committee assignment(s) this year.”

Thank you all for your commitment and dedication to SLA New England.

2012 Slate of Officers

Congratulations to our new officers for 2012: Devon McArdle, President Elect and Matt Burt, Treasurer.

Here is the slate of SLA New England’s Executive Board officers for 2012

President – Khalilah Gambrell

President Elect – Devon McArdle

Past-President – Nancy Burt

Secretary — Beth Giana

Treasurer — Matthew Burt

Director, Communications — Gauri Govil

Director, Strategic Planning — Paula Cohen

Strategic Plan Draft

The Strategic Plan draft is available for all members to review. Please send comments to Paula Cohen, SLA Boston Strategic Planning Director (Paulacohen00@gmail.com) by December 31st. The official plan will be presented to members by March 15th. We appreciate the efforts of the Strategic Planning committee.

Passing Gavel

The Annual Business Meeting concluded with the passing of the gavel as Khalilah Gambrell assumed the position of SLA New England Chapter President. Khalilah’s remarks focused on the three C’s that will outline her presidency: Communicate, Collaborate, and Commit. She asked members to help her:

- Communicate who we are within the chapter and beyond by empowering members with skills to articulate the value of the profession within and outside their organizations and job positions
- Collaborate by building bridges that connect all members
- Commit in some way (however small or big) to sharing knowledge with each other

If members can Communicate, Collaborate, and Commit then 2012 will be a fun and exciting year for SLA New England.

Khalilah will provide more details about ways to Communicate, Collaborate, Commit in the next couple of weeks. Entire text of her remarks are available online.

Overall, it was an exciting and historic Annual Business Meeting.

Congratulations to all award winners and 2012 Executive Board.
January’s Brown Bag Lunch Topic will be **Text Mining, Query Formulation and the role of Information Professionals**. The program is co-sponsored by the SLA New England Chapter and SLA Pharmaceutical and Health Technologies Division

**Date:** Tuesday January 10, 2012  
**Time:** 12 noon-1:30 pm  
**Place:** Tufts Center for the Study of Drug Development, Suite 1100, 75 Kneeland St Boston MA

**Directions:** [http://csdd.tufts.edu/index.php/directions](http://csdd.tufts.edu/index.php/directions)

**Cost:** Free. Bring your brown bag lunch [or pick something up in Chinatown]. Drinks and cookies sponsored by Linguamatics


This program will include networking and an informal presentation by Linguamatics on text mining and query formulation. These two topics are of increasing interest and importance to information professionals. Don’t miss this exciting opportunity to learn more and discuss what you are already doing!

Additionally, a talk at the recent 2011 Gilbane Boston Content Management conference identified “query formulation” as an important skill set in short supply and Dr. Susan LeBeau will talk briefly about her experience hiring in this area.

Text mining has been used for some time in drug discovery and competitive intelligence and can be useful for:

– Therapeutic Areas and Clinical trials  
– Drug Target Identification and Validation  
– Biomarker Discovery  
– Systems Biology  
– Safety/Toxicology  
– Pharmacovigilance/Post Marketing Surveillance  
– Translational Medicine  
– Competitive Intelligence

**Contact:** Mary Chitty, mchitty(AT SIGN)healthtech.com or Sandra Peters, Sandra.Peters(AT SIGN)tufts.edu
Chapter Discussion and Dine Around in Connecticut

December 19, 2011 Categories: Programs
Join fellow SLA New England members on Thursday, January 12th from 6:00pm to 8:00pm for a chapter discussion and dine around in Connecticut. Location and agenda details are as follows:

**Union Street Tavern**
20 Union St Windsor, CT 06095-2512
tel. (860) 683-2899
http://unionstreettavern.com/

**Agenda:**
6:00 to 6:30 Networking
6:30 to 8:00 Dinner and Chapter Discussion

**Registration:** Please register by Monday, January 9th at http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/Jan2012CT

**Contact:** Khalilah Gambrell, gambrell AT Sign gmail.com

*A dine around allows information professionals to mingle informally. Attendees pay for their own meals and drinks.*
Let’s Go Pats! SLA New England Accepts Super Bowl XLVI Challenge

February 3, 2012 Categories: News & Notes

Hello all,

To kickoff Super Bowl weekend, SLA New England has accepted SLA New York’s challenge regarding the Super Bowl match up between the New England Patriots and New York Giants. When the Giants lose, SLA New York will:

1. Change Facebook and Twitter profile pictures to the winning team’s logo for one week.
2. Post, in a visible location in their libraries, a Super Bowl Championship poster, logo, or screensaver for one week.
3. Pictures of the Championship memorabilia in the losing Chapter’s libraries should be posted on the losing Chapter’s website, and to their social media channels, for all to see.

Tell us what you think about the wager and how you will celebrate Super Bowl weekend.

Khalilah
Happy New Year SLA New England!

Do you want to be involved in programming in your local area? Do you have awesome ideas for programming that you would like help to get off the ground? Why not join me and become an SLA New England Program Lead for your geographic area!

As a Program Lead you would:

- Initiate ideas for brown bag lunches, dine arounds, professional development meetings, etc in your area
- Assist in finding a suitable location (office, restaurant, etc) and booking it
- Work with the Programs Chair (that’s me! Devon McArdle) to promote and sign up members for your program
- Recruit volunteers to help with the program

You could host one event or many – it’s up to you! But if you would like to see more programming or specific programming in your local area, please take this opportunity to help improve and lead your chapter. If you’d like to be involved but don’t know where to start, email me and we’ll toss around ideas!

To become a Program Lead please email me directly at devonannmcardle@gmail.com or add your name to our SignUp Genius Volunteer Sheet as a Program Lead

Thank you and Looking forward to a great year full of member-driven programming!
Settling the Super Bowl Wager

February 7, 2012 Categories: News & Notes

The Game was a classic. The Pats played hard and with a little more time maybe, just maybe things would have been different. But they are not. The New York Giants are Super Bowl Champions and we now SLA New England members, we must settle our Super Bowl bet with SLA New York…. together.

For a week we need members to do one or both of the following:

a.) change their own Facebook & Twitter profile pictures to the Giants logo or Giants Championship picture

b.) display some poster or Giants’ memorabilia in their libraries for one week and send pictures to slanewengland AT gmail.com for posting to the website.

Thank you! I know it’s a tough time but we will get through it together.

Khalilah
The e-Science Portal for New England Librarians

February 9, 2012 Categories: News & Notes

The e-Science Portal for New England Librarians

Keep your finger on New England’s e-Science pulse and check out the e-Science Portal for New England Librarians — a librarian’s link to e-science resources. Initiated by the Lamar Soutter Library at the University of Massachusetts Medical School with funding from the National Network of Libraries of Medicine, New England Region, the e-science portal is a centralized resource for librarians who work in research organizations that generate, share, store, and/or use data for basic scientific research in the health, biological, and physical sciences.

A team of subject librarians from diverse New England research libraries have contributed content for the portal’s seven focus areas. These focus areas include: Home, About e-Science, e-Science and Libraries, Current Projects, e-Science Community, Science Primers, and About the Portal. The portal includes links to publications about researchers and data, cyberinfrastructure, library roles, research support services, data management planning, data repositories, librarian education, current projects, science primers and tutorials. The portal blog, e-Science Community, offers blog postings on e-science hot topics, job opportunities, news, events, and provides a discussion forum.

The-Science Portal team welcomes comments, suggestions, and contribution of content! For further information, contact project coordinator for the portal, Donna Kafel at donna.kafel@umassmed.edu
Brown Bag Lunch: Marketing and Promotion Roundtable and Networking

February 13, 2012 Categories: News & Notes, Programs

Date: Wednesday February 29th, 2012

Time: 12 noon-1:30 pm

Place: Congregational Library, 14 Beacon Street, 2nd Floor, Boston, MA 02108

Directions: On Beacon Hill, just a block from the State House and Boston Common. Use of Public transportation is recommended. The nearest MBTA stop is Park Street. Upon exiting Park Street Station, walk up Park Street toward the State House. Turn right onto Beacon Street. No. 14 is down the block on your right. Government Center and State Street stops are also short walks away. On street parking in the area is very limited. There are a number of parking garages in the area including the Common Garage if planning to drive.

Cost: Free. Bring your brown bag lunch. Cookies and beverages will be provided by the Congregational Library.

Description: Networking and Roundtable Discussion: Come share creative ideas/programs/outreach that you or your library has been using to promote and market the library services and/or expertise. What’s working and what’s not!

Register by Friday February 24th, 2012: http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/FebBrownBag

Questions? Claudette Newall, 617-523-0470, cnewhall(AT)14beacon.org
Call for SLA Academic Division Springshare sponsored Award

February 15, 2012 Categories: Awards & Recognition, News & Notes

Do you think your library is eligible for this SLA Academic Division Springshare sponsored award?

The Academic Division of SLA is very proud to present for the second year an award for academic libraries, sponsored by Springshare, Inc., creator of LibGuides!

This annual award recognizes a new program or service that demonstrates an innovative approach to academic librarianship. Please feel free to distribute to all innovative academic libraries you may know.

Award
A certificate and a $500 US award, donated by Springshare, are presented during the Academic Library Division Business Meeting at the Special Libraries Association (SLA) Annual Conference. The winning library is also recognized through the Academic Division’s various public relations outlets.

Criteria
Projects nominated for the award should demonstrate recognized innovation, creativity and quality. Nominated programs or services can have been developed in any facet of the library’s activities, including but not limited to:

- reference and research assistance;
- information literacy and library instruction;
- collection development;
- cataloging and/or technical services;
- space planning; or
- marketing and public relations

Eligibility
Academic or research libraries in a higher education institution are eligible to receive the award. Recipients must have implemented their program or service in an academic or research library no more than two years prior to the nomination submission deadline. Nominated libraries do not have to have a SLA or an SLA-Academic Division member on staff.

Submissions
Nominations must include a 500-1000 words description of the innovative program or service and must demonstrate usage and/or success of implementation using accepted assessment methods. Include any other supporting print or electronic documentation that would assist the committee in evaluating the purpose, content, impact, and innovative aspects of the program or service.

Send nominations to the Academic Division Awards Committee Chair, Catherine Lavallée-Welch, Director, University of South Florida Polytechnic Library, clw@poly.usf.edu.

Note: Electronic submissions are required. Submission Deadline: April 1st, 2012

(Above announcement taken from SLA Academic Libguides)
Members needed to help select next SLA New England Diversity Stipend Recipient

February 20, 2012 Categories: News & Notes, Stipends

SLA New England Diversity Committee is looking for two members to help select this year’s SLA New England Diversity stipend recipient.

SLA New England Diversity stipend is given to any current SLA New England member of African American, Hispanic, Asian or Pacific Islander, American Indian, Aleutian (Alaskan) native or native Hawaiian heritage.

The stipend can be used for

- SLA Annual Meeting attendance
- Tuition reimbursement at a graduate school of library science program
- Tuition reimbursement for a professional development program directly related to the library and information professional field

If you are interested in selecting the next recipient, please email SLA New England Chapter President, Khalilah Gambrell (kgambrell AT ebscohost.com) by February 28th.

Last year’s recipient was Molly McInerney (http://newengland.sla1.org/archives/637).
Meet the Pharmaceutical and Health Technology Division

February 21, 2012 Categories: Division Profile, News & Notes

SLA New England is kicking off a series of profiles called “Meet the Division.” A division leader will write a profile giving members an opportunity to learn more about the division and its latest happenings. Divisions provide one of the most important benefits to SLA New England members as it gives opportunities to connect and collaborate with members with common interests and specialties.

Pharmaceutical and Health Technology Division will be the first in our series.

About the Division

From the website: “The Pharmaceutical and Health Technology Division (P&HT) of the Special Libraries Association (http://units.sla.org/division/dpht/) provides a forum for the exchange of information and ideas among individuals interested in the collection, storage, retrieval, analysis, and dissemination of information in all aspects of the pharmaceutical, biomedical, biotechnical, cosmetic, medical device, and other health care fields. P&HT is involved in all aspects of information science, as related to education, research, business and marketing in the health care field.”

Latest News

SLA’s Pharmaceutical & Health Technology Division recently formed a section focused on Medical Devices & Diagnostics. About two dozen DPHT members held a round table discussion in Philadelphia at the Annual Meeting in June 2011

Recent Programs in the New England Area

We’ve had meetups for life science [and other] librarians in Oct 2011 and Jan 2012 at the Whitehead Institute, Cambridge MA and Tufts Center for the Study of Drug Development, Boston MA and hope to continue these. Sharing information about best practices, lessons learned — and ongoing challenges — seems the best way to try to keep up with the bleeding edge science — and business needs everyone is grappling with.

2012 PHT Division Spring Meeting

Every year, the division holds a spring meeting and this year it will be in Baltimore, Maryland from March 18th-March 20th, 2012.


About the Author Mary Chitty is the Pharmaceutical Division Chair Elect (http://units.sla.org/division/dpht/)
She is responsible for planning the program at the June 2013 San Diego Annual Meeting, along with meeting planner Jeanie Fraser of Jazz Pharmaceuticals in California. She is also an active SLA New England Member who won the 2011 SLA New England Distinguished Service Award.
The Next Generation of Intelligence Analysis: Preparing Your KITs+1 for the Journey

SCIP Connecticut Chapter & SLA New England
Present

The Next Generation of Intelligence Analysis: Preparing Your KITs+1 for the Journey

Speaker:  Dr. Craig Fleisher, Chief Learning Officer for Aurora WDC
Connecticut Center for Advanced Technology
East Hartford, Connecticut

Tuesday, March 6th, 2012
5:30-7:30 PM

The next generation of intelligence analysis looks very different from the analysis done in our organizations over the past few years. Driving forces, including needs to address the growing complexity of competitive and environmental factors, better dealing with the global explosion of data available, and the urgent need for alternative cognitive models, among other things, have brought intelligence analysis to a tipping point. Based on nearly two decades of research conducted with hundreds of global organizations, Dr. Craig S. Fleisher, the “Dean of Intelligence Analysis” will discuss how analysis practices and processes need to be re-engineered to meet rapidly changing needs of decision-makers. Dr. Fleisher will illustrate several “next generation” analytical elements, the development of structured analytical methodology including the means for uniting key intelligence topics (KITs) and analytical techniques in a framework known as KITs+1™, collaborative insight mechanics driven by Web 2.0 applications such as wikis, and new models for training and development like the one called Analytical Fitness™ that Aurora is using with its own analysts and clients.

Dr. Craig S. Fleisher is the Chief Learning Officer for Aurora WDC, where he develops custom, executive training programs for organizations intent on building and leveraging their intelligence analysis capabilities for achieving competitive advantage. He is a former SCIP President, inaugural chair of the CI Foundation, Editor of the Journal of Competitive Intelligence and Management, SCIP Fellow and Meritorious Award winner, SCIP’s highest international honor. Dr. Fleisher has also served as dean of two business schools, been a university research chair holder, has written/co-written over a hundred academic articles, and half a dozen CI books including his foundational efforts Strategic and Competitive Analysis (Prentice Hall, 2003) and Business and Competitive Analysis (FT Press, 2007). A popular global speaker, he is also affiliated on the graduate faculties of Università della Svizzera italiana in Switzerland, Tampere University of Technology (Finland) and Leicester Business School, UK, among others.

Date/Time:  March 6th, 5:30 – 7:30 PM
Location: Connecticut Center for Advanced Technology, 222 Pitkin Street, East Hartford, CT 06108
Directions:  http://www.ccat.us/directions.php

Agenda:  5:30-6:15 Networking
6:15-7:15 Presentation
7:15-7:30 Q&A

Cost:  $15 SCIP/SLA Member
$20 Non-member

Registration:  http://www.scip.org/Training/EventsDetail.cfm?itemnumber=15898

For more information, contact:
Fred Wergeles
SCIP-CT Chapter Chair
860.408.9093
Fred@IntelStrategy.com
Please join Bentley Library on Thursday, March 29, for the spring installment in the Bentley Library Information Literacy Series, featuring Laura Saunders, assistant professor at the Simmons College Graduate School of Library and Information Science. Light refreshments will be available in LaCava 325AB at 3:30 pm, with the event getting underway at 4:00 pm.

Laura Saunders, Assistant Professor, Simmons College Graduate School of Library and Information Science

Prof. Saunders is a former academic reference and instruction librarian who holds master’s and doctoral degrees in library and information science from Simmons. She is an expert on information literacy and will speak about the future of information literacy—how research and evaluation skills transfer from high school to college, and from college to beyond, and how faculty and students both contribute to students’ ongoing learning of information literacy skills and concepts.

More information about Prof. Saunders and her research and teaching is available on the Simmons College GSLIS website.

Please RSVP to Liz Galoozis by March 15 if you plan to bring a class to the event or will require students to attend.
SLA New England Diversity Leadership Development Scholarship is available

March 2, 2012 Categories: Awards & Recognition, News & Notes, Stipends

We are now accepting applications for the **SLA New England Diversity Leadership Development Scholarship** that can be used for one of the following:

- SLA Annual Conference attendance
- Tuition reimbursement at a library science program
- Tuition reimbursement for a professional development program directly related to the information professional field

**Scholarship Eligibility Rules:**

- Any SLA New England Chapter member in good standing
- Of Black (African American), Hispanic, Asian or Pacific Islander, American Indian, Aleutian (Alaskan) native or native Hawaiian heritage
- And not awarded the Minority Scholarship previously

**Application Process**

To apply, please download the application and submit to Khalilah Gambrell (kgambrell AT ebscohost.com) by April 3rd. Recipient will be notified by late April.

If you have any questions, please contact Khalilah Gambrell.
SLA New England Student Relations Committee Invites you to Participate in our Annual Day on the Job!

Dear SLA New England Members,

The SLA New England student relations committee is pleased to announce the annual “Day on the Job” (DOTJ) program for LIS students. This popular program enables students to meet with practicing professionals and to learn more about their jobs, work environments, and career history and objectives. The program has proven to be highly beneficial to students as they explore different work situations. In some cases it has had a direct impact on a student’s career choice. We invite you to be a host to one or several of these students.

Despite its name, the DOTJ does not involve a particular day or format. The date and time can be whenever the student and host finds to be mutually convenient, although usually the best time for students is during the school semester. The format is also flexible, ranging from a day-long job “shadowing”, to a series of interviews, to a library tour, to a conversation over a cup of coffee. Any time you are able to share with a student will be appreciated.

In keeping with the SLA New England name change, we hope to invite the students from GSLIS West, Southern Connecticut and beyond to participate. If you are based in these two areas (or Maine, Vermont or New Hampshire!), please consider being a host. Additionally, membership in SLA is not required for host or student participation so feel free to send this announcement to your colleagues off-list.

To sign up as a host, please complete the Host Sign Up online form. Also, we have another survey for those students who are interested in being a part of this program and experience a “Day on the Job”. To sign up as a student, please fill out the Student Sign Up form. We would appreciate receiving your response by Friday, March 23rd. Once we have determined which student(s) are the best match for your situation, we will email the contact information to you in April.

If you have any questions please contact Chris Hurd, Student Relations Committee, at churd82(at)gmail.com
Call for Posters – Academic/Humanities/Social Sciences Poster Session in SLA 2012 in Chicago

March 7, 2012 Categories: Conferences, News & Notes

SLA 2012 Call for Posters: “Jumping over the Candlestick: Individual and Institutional Efforts to Be Nimble and Quick in an Interconnected World”

The Academic; Education; Museums, Arts, & Humanities; and Social Science Divisions of SLA invite proposals for a poster session to be held during the divisions’ joint open house at SLA 2012 in Chicago. The theme for this year’s poster session is “Jumping over the Candlestick: Individual and Institutional Efforts to Be Nimble and Quick in an Interconnected World.”

Proposals should focus on the ways information professionals and/or their institutions are staying agile in today’s open world economy. Case studies, research, and innovative ideas for the future are all welcome.

The poster session will be a relaxed and informal time to share ideas with your colleagues. We welcome proposals from any SLA member, new or experienced, and especially from students. A prize will be awarded for the best poster, as judged by attendees.

Proposals should be submitted by April 15, 2012 via e-mail to tmurray@stamps.org. Please include a title and description of about 250 words, and your name, institution, e-mail address, and address. Proposals will be reviewed by a committee for relevance to the theme and quality, and applicants will be notified of the decision by May 1, 2012.

The Poster Session and Joint Open House will be held on Tuesday, July 17, 2012 from 7-9 p.m.

The 2012 poster session committee is Barbara Kern (Academic Division), Maya Kucij (Education Division), Tara Murray (Social Science Division), and Cameron Trowbridge (Museum, Arts, & Humanities Division).
Accepting Unemployed and Part-Time Employed Annual Conference Stipend Applicants

March 8, 2012 Categories: Awards & Recognition, News & Notes, Stipends

SLA New England Chapter is pleased to announce a $1000 stipend for a unemployed or part-time employed member to attend this year’s annual conference. Applications are now available to download.

Qualifications

- An active SLA New England member
- Who completed a LIS program before May 31, 2011
- Who is currently unemployed or working equal to or less than 20 hours a week
- Who has not previously received a scholarship or stipend from SLA New England

Applicants must write a 500 word essay on one of the following questions:

a.) Why is attending SLA Annual Conference important to you?

b.) Describe an SLA benefit you value and how it could be enhanced or improved.

Application Process

Applications must be sent as a single file attachment in Word or Acrobat PDF format by email to Nancy Burt, SLA New England Chapter Past President: nancy.b.burt AT gmail.com. Please contact Nancy for general guidance about application.

Submissions will be judged by your peers! We will post all essays with names and personal identifying details removed to http://newengland.sla1.org. Members and visitors to the website will be able to vote for the winning essay. The person with the most votes will be awarded the stipend.

Post Award Requirement: Recipient will write a post summarizing his/her activities at the conference.

Deadline for Application Submission: April 26th

Notification: May 5th
Meet the SLA News Division

March 12, 2012 Categories: Division Profile, News & Notes

Our second profile in the Meet the Division series is the SLA News Division written by SLA New England member and SLA News Division 2012 Past-chair, Leigh Montgomery.

It is rare and refreshing to be writing for colleagues, who know what an informational professional can bring to the enterprise.

But what does a news librarian do? And why does the News Division of SLA exist?

These professionals are librarians who are journalists. Many Division members are engaged in research, journalism in many forms and formats, data analysis, digital archiving, social media moderation, training, library portfolio management, and, more often than not – all of the above. In a field with the most demanding production schedules anywhere, and where accuracy is paramount, they’re the decathletes of any newsroom. How is this possible?

A major contribution to professional development has been the News Division. There are about 280 members of the News Division currently. Since its founding in 1924, when newspapers were the most dominant form of mass media, there have been quite a few members who work in newspapers or newspapers-turned-digital media companies. One theory is because they have been charged with handling a tremendous amount of material for their archives, process a information for daily production, and perform a wide variety of tasks. There is also a long tradition of newspaper-based members that has led to mentors encouraging involvement in the Division.

Many of these professionals work at media companies, though there are more members who work for other commercial entities such as database and directory companies, news offices of universities or nonprofits, as independent researchers, and many others. Members actively share information, troubleshooting, help each other with articles and technology solutions, much of this via a listserv discussion list, NewsLib-L. There are also annual conference programs. Derek Willis, newsroom developer at the New York Times and a News Division member, has said he comes to the conference because it is a great opportunity “to learn a lot of things in one place.” His blog, The Scoop, is about data journalism, and he writes a Tech Tips column for the News Division’s NewsLibBlog. Programs recently have addressed taxonomies for news assets, combating online misinformation, inherent knowledge sharing, and computer programming and development. Clearly members encourage and learn from each other, and see examples of success for replication. In that regard, it is a very modern way of learning and working.

As the explosion of data from many sources continues, and greater currency is placed in analytics, there’s been a continuing trend in computational journalism. Reporters previously were not fans of statistics to say the least – they worked in words, and sentence as art form. To work in journalism now you have to work with numbers, and librarians saw this early on – largely when they began to license and manage datasets, back in the days of CD-ROMs. Creating and curating datasets is going from a nice-to-have to a public service. This could be for investigative projects, community data, calendars of events, or archives of photos and historical events in their city. As you can see, this is where librarianship and journalism is intersecting with computer science. They are creating content – knowledge – directly. Another contribution librarians are involved in is leveraging their content for additional revenue streams.

The news business, like many, is undergoing a substantial transformation. Journalism, however, is at the core of the information ecosystem. Anyone working in it is largely because they feel so strongly about it. Far from being impartial observers – they are wholly immersed in a civic act. And despite many challenges it is a very exciting time – some say the most creative period in history. Anyone can be a publisher, and everyone is a participant. Including you. More on that in a minute.

There are robust conversations right now about “factchecking,” whether professional entities, nonprofits, or mobilizing corps of citizens. That’s essential, and hopefully as a result we’ll live in a world that is smarter, and safer, than ever. However there will always be a need for professionals who are devoted to this work – and librarians to be on the team ensuring that subjects are covered, enriched with detail and statistics, and that they are archived in digital formats for future use, as well as syndicated to the Internet and commercial entities.

Reading and analyzing information is part of every profession. New professions in information, such as knowledge management and competitive intelligence, do this. It’s one reason why the News Division has partnered with these professions in many capacities, and why KM and CI members should consider getting involved too. Taxonomy is not only huge in the digital space – but the prospect of linked data, or Web 3.0, is going to change media. If you work in taxonomies, there’s a lot the News Division could learn from you and vice versa.

In the information professions, reading news about economics, industry trends, opportunities and pressures is a basic expectation. The next phase is to be writing, blogging, and sharing your interpretations. You’ll be reporting the news. In that regard, this could start by checking off the box of the News Division when you renew your SLA membership. We all look forward to what’s next.

– Leigh Montgomery is 2012 Past-chair, SLA News Division
Inviting Applications for Student Award to Attend SLA 2012 in Chicago!

SLA New England is pleased to announce a $1500 stipend available to a current MLS student in the New England area.

SLA New England Student Travel Stipend Award Criteria

QUALIFICATIONS:
- Be currently enrolled as a degree candidate at an ALA-accredited academic program in Library and Information Science in New England.
- Be a first time attendee of an SLA conference.
- Be a current member of SLA and of the SLA's New England Chapter.

APPLICATION PROCESS:
Submit a document containing the following information/elements:
- Full name.
- Academic affiliation: Institution and Program.
- Date of start of program; number of semesters and courses completed as of December 2011; and anticipated date of graduation.
- Contact information, including mailing address, telephone, and email.
- Other SLA division awards, if any, for which you are applying.
- An essay of no more than 750 words (see details below). The essay should be double-spaced.

Submissions will be judged on the basis of originality and clarity as well as on inclusion of all required information. Neatness, spelling, grammar, and completion of all required information will count in judging.

ESSAY DESCRIPTION:
Write an essay of up to 750 words on one of the following two topics:
1. The conference theme this year is “Practicing Agility in an Open World Economy.” What does this mean to you in the context of being an information professional?
2. Why would attending this conference be beneficial to you in your transition from student to information professional?

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATION SUBMISSION:
Sunday, April 15th, 2012

APPLICATION PROCESS:
Applications should be emailed as a single file attachment in Microsoft Word to Wendy Austin, SLA New England Student Relations Committee Co-Chair, at the following email address: waustin@draper.com. Please contact Wendy with questions about the application process.

POST AWARD REQUIREMENTS:
1. The Awardee will write a brief article (approximately 1,000 words) on the conference experience for posting on the SLA New England Website (http://newengland.sla1.org/).
2. The Awardee must serve a one-year term as the Student Relations Committee Co-Chair of the SLA New England Chapter or, if graduated during the 2012 spring semester, as a member of the Student Relations Committee (the latter may be accomplished virtually, if the recipient is no longer a New England resident following graduation).
3. The Awardee must be a member of SLA and of the SLA’s New England Chapter throughout the one-year board term described above

NOTIFICATION AND AWARD DISTRIBUTION:
- Applicants will receive notification of award status in late April 2012.
- The winners will make their own conference and registration arrangements and will receive prompt reimbursement for travel expenses after the conference by submitting travel receipts to the SLA New England treasurer. The award may be applied to the SLA student conference registration fee, transportation, and lodging costs. Meals and incidental expenses are not covered.
Join us for a Dine Around, March 29th, in Reading MA

March 14, 2012 Categories: News & Notes, Programs

What are you doing for dinner on Thursday March 29th? Join Past-President Nancy Burt and other SLA NE colleagues for a dine around at Mandarin Restaurant in Reading MA!

There is no charge for this event beyond what you eat and drink, but we would appreciate it if you could register by the end of day on Tuesday March 27th. Walk-ins are always welcome!

Register here.

Questions? Contact Nancy Burt at nancy.b.burt@gmail.com

Hope to see you there!
SLA New England Chapter Meeting Scheduled for March 31st

March 16, 2012 Categories: News & Notes

SLA New England will hold a Chapter Meeting on Saturday, March 31st from 12noon to 2:00pm at Simmons College, Beatley Library, Lefavour Hall 428.

Directions: http://www.simmons.edu/overview/directions/

Parking: We are currently working with Simmons to get parking coupons. Will provide an update as soon as possible.

All (members and non-members) are welcome to attend. Lunch will be provided and we encourage attendees to bring beverages and tasty desserts.

The meeting is a great opportunity to learn about SLA New England and latest happenings. It is also a great opportunity to collaborate with peers on programming and initiatives that are important to librarians and information professionals.

In order to get an accurate count for lunch, we need attendees to register by Wednesday, March 28th.
Meet a Member: Khalilah Gambrell

March 27, 2012 Categories: Member Profile, News & Notes

With this post, we inaugurate a new series of SLA New England member profiles starting with our Chapter President, Khalilah Gambrell. These profiles will feature a cross-section of our chapter’s membership in an effort to showcase the diversity of the information profession and of special libraries. From corporate libraries to government agencies to academic libraries to library vendors and everything in between, this spot will have it all. Want to be featured? Know someone who would be a great fit? Don’t hesitate to get in touch with Katy Aronoff, Membership Co-Chair.

How did you enter the information profession, and what was your path to your current job?

After graduating from Boston College, I worked in client service at RoweCom, a subscription service that served libraries. Most of my clients were corporate librarians, and it was a very interesting time in the profession as more and more resources were being dedicated to acquiring electronic access to information rather than print. I learned a lot from many of my clients, and it led to this realization that I wanted to be a librarian. While attending Simmons Graduate School of Library and Information Science (GSLIS), I took a position with Thomson Reuters, where I managed investor relations websites. With this position, I became more involved with information design and usability. After graduating from Simmons GSLIS, I took a position with EBSCO Publishing in the EBSCOhost Product Management group as a Senior Requirements Analyst. In this role, I specify the user experience for several EBSCO Publishing products.

I spend a lot of time collaborating with product champions and technical groups on how to make the optimal user experience for our users. In my position, I ask the “what, why, how, where, and when” to ensure that we account for the end-to-end interaction a user might have with our interfaces. Lastly, I then document the answers to these questions as requirements and present them to various groups to ensure the requirements are implemented to support the optimal user experience.

“What do you do?” can be a difficult question for librarians who work outside traditional settings and roles. How do you describe your job to people inside and outside the field?

This is tough. I am not sure my mother understands what I do. Typically, I say this: I help to define the look and feel of a website used by folks to conduct research.

How do you see your work changing in the next few years? What about the profession as a whole?

We live in a microwave society. Everyone wants their information quickly. Combine that with information overload, because information is accessible everywhere, and it’s quite hard to comprehend for most folks. As librarians and information professionals, we have the skillset to help manage and curate this information to help minimize the “noise.” We are still needed to be specialists because of this “noise.”

What advice would you give to a new librarian, especially one who’s interested in pursuing work in special libraries?

Well first, join SLA. It is a great opportunity to network with members working in a variety of libraries. Reach out to members who are in positions or companies that you have an interest. Stay current by reading blogs and publications such as Information Outlook. More importantly, be able to succinctly explain to others what you want to do. Opportunities are available in areas that we never imagined, and so the ability to articulate at a high level what you are capable of as a librarian is critical.

How did you get involved with SLA New England? How did you end up assuming a leadership role in the chapter?

In 2005, I participated in the Day on the Job program and spent the day at Bain. It was great, and I learned so much that day. Later that year, I won the student stipend and attended the annual conference in Toronto. A few years later, Past President Anna Burke asked me to be the Diversity chair, and I accepted. With this position, I wanted to come up with a plan to reach out to diverse groups. I decided to restructure the Diversity scholarship to help with this plan. In 2010, I was approached to be President-Elect, and I did this because I really want to help our profession grow, and I want folks outside of the profession to learn more about us. I want to help break stereotypes so folks know how awesome we are.

What are your goals for the chapter as president?

In my first remarks as President, I stated that I want each and every member to Communicate, Collaborate, and Commit. Even if it is a quick as a retweet or being a committee chair, it really makes a difference. I really want members to feel that SLA New England is a community where they can feel safe asking questions, sharing information, or trying something new.

I am also interested in developing tools and services that bring value to members. Recently, we launched the Resource Directory as a way for SLA New England members who are independent professionals or consultants to post information to help promote their services. We also created a new stipend to support an unemployed/part-time member’s attendance at Annual. We are also working on a pilot service for resume peer-review support.

Lastly, I want to educate corporations, institutions, and professional organizations on “what is SLA New England?” I want folks not familiar with our profession to know more about us and our capabilities: that we know how to communicate and manage information. We are the people who know how to get the what, why, how, when, and where out of a person and bring an understanding to information overload.

When you’re not working or performing your presidential duties, where can we find you and what are you doing?

Working on my family tree. It’s a labor of love, and it satisfies the sleuth in me.

And finally, a question that has nothing to do with work: What’s your favorite ice cream flavor?

Uh-oh, this is not a short answer. I need to provide a breakdown since my love of ice cream is definitely a trait that my father passed down to me.
• J.P. Licks: Peanut Butter Oreo OR Malted Chocolate
• White Mountain (near Boston College): Oreo Cookie Cheesecake—I hear you can put your name on a waitlist.

About the Author: Katy Aronoff is the Special Projects Librarian at Bentley University and the Membership Co-Chair of SLA New England. At Bentley, she coordinates library-wide projects and special initiatives including the archives, social media, and the Bentley Library Information Literacy Series, of which she is a co-founder. Katy holds a bachelor’s degree in history from Barnard College and a master’s in library and information science from Simmons GSLIS. Prior to her arrival at Bentley in 2010, she held several positions in higher education, most recently at Tufts University, where she was coordinator of Photography and Web Communications. Katy is a runner, a yogi, an enthusiastic home cook, and a recently converted fan of cats.
Meet the SLA Legal Division

April 2, 2012 Categories: Division Profile, News & Notes

Our third profile in the Meet the Division series is the SLA Legal Division written by 2012 Division Chair, Tracy Z. Maleeff.

Founded in 1993, SLA’s Legal Division is currently over 1,000 members strong. In addition to our large presence in the United States, our membership also extends to 10 different countries around the globe. While many of our members work as information professionals in private law firms, a healthy portion of our division is employed by courts, law schools, non-profit organizations and in the corporate world.

A popular misconception is that all librarians in the legal world also went to law school and have a J.D. While many of our members do hold that distinction, it is also common to be a paraprofessional or have an M.L.I.S. degree and still service users or clients as information professionals in the legal field.

We take Professional Development very seriously in the Legal Division! In conjunction with Wolters Kluwer Law & Business, we just announced a partnership with them for a monthly professional development series called, “Law Library TNT!” (Trends ‘n Topics) Keeping on top of current news is also important to us and the Legal Division utilizes a variety of social media to connect with our members and to disseminate relevant legal news. Our newsletter is called the Legal Division Docket, and publishes three times a year. We also have a presence on Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn and of course our website, legal.sla.org.

At the annual conferences, the Legal Division takes pride in presenting quality educational sessions and engaging networking receptions. We enjoy collaborating with other SLA divisions in order to create programming that can appeal to a wider SLA audience. For the 2012 SLA Annual Conference and INFO-EXPO, we have great sessions lined up that address a wide range of topics with a legal slant. Check out our full line-up here, http://sla2012.sched.org/company/Legal%20Division. For more information about the Legal Division, please contact Chair Tracy Z. Maleeff, TZMaleeff@duanemorris.com.
SLA New England member appointed to SLA First Five Years Advisory Council

April 11, 2012 Categories: Awards & Recognition, News & Notes

Congratulations to SLA NE member, Nicole Fonsh for being appointed to the SLA First Five Years Advisory Council. As a council member, she will provide SLA guidance as to the needs of library and information professionals at the early stages of their careers. In addition to her national responsibilities, Nicole will also serve the chapter in the same capacity.

About Nicole

Before entering the Library Science program at Simmons, Nicole worked for 6+ years at Goldman Sachs in both Boston and London. She completed her MSLS at Simmons College in the Spring of 2011. After working for over a year as a Research Analyst at Bain Capital, Nicole has recently begun working as a Research Analyst in the Alumni Affairs & Development office at Harvard University. When she’s not busy researching or collaborating with other librarians over Twitter, you can find Nicole exploring the Boston area for new restaurants and food trucks or training for her next marathon.

More information about SLA First Five Years Advisory Council

SLA Website: http://www.sla.org/content/community/committe/firstfive.cfm

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/pages/SLA-First-Five-Years/98542113368
Creating Customized Tools & Resources to Add Value at Your Organization – Event in Portland, Maine!

April 12, 2012 Categories: News & Notes, Programs

Join us for this afternoon event on May 17th from 3pm-5pm. The three speakers highlighted below will be discussing innovative and creative projects in which they have been involved within their companies. Coffee and refreshments provided!

The event will be followed by a pay-your-own-way dinner at Flatbread Company.

Location:
Pierce Atwood LLP
254 Commercial St.

Directions

Speakers:

Emily Florio, the Manager of Libraries & Library Information Systems at Fish & Richardson will discuss how her department has used various types of technology and resources to support her firm’s strategic initiatives. Emily will show how her department has embraced SharePoint and other software, including APIs, CUIs and widgets to create customized tools. Come learn how you can offer customized access points to content that will drive resource utilization and deliver value to your firm in new and innovative ways.

Tom Clark, the Knowledge Services Team Lead at the MITRE Corp., will dive into the modern news distribution world and discuss how the MITRE Information Services staff create and deliver 17 newsletters to MITRE staff. He’ll describe the platforms that MITRE uses and why and also talk about the future of news delivery and how social media, devices and apps are changing the way we look at the news.

Betty Edwards, a Senior Research Analyst at Draper Lab in Cambridge, will discuss two major initiatives that have extended the scope of information services. The first is an innovative e-mail filtering service for hundreds of Google and Google Scholar alerts, which are distributed daily to Lab employees. Through programming and the creation of shell scripts, a new delivery mechanism was designed that bypasses Microsoft Outlook. The second initiative involves the investigation, implementation, roll-out, and marketing of the Lab’s membership in an R&D organization known as IRI – the Industrial Research Institute. It provides the Draper community with insights, solutions, and best practices in innovation management developed through collaborative knowledge creation.

Use SurveyMonkey to Register here!

There is no charge for this event beyond what you eat and drink if you stay for dinner, but we would appreciate it if you could register by end of day on Monday May 14th.

- Questions? Contact Kami Bedard, kbedard@pierceatwood.com
Not a Librarian?

April 25, 2012 Categories: News & Notes

Nicole Fonsh, SLA First Five Year Advisory Council member wrote the following post on her blog “Living the Dream: Like this blog ... we all evolve.” She graciously has allowed SLA New England to re-post the following post originally published on February 15, 2012. Check out her blog at http://sparklin29.wordpress.com.

That is a question that has been hanging over my head for about the last 9 months.

About 3/4 of the way through Master’s program, I was extremely fortunate to be offered a full-time librarian role at an investment firm in Boston where I had been interning part-time. My role was Research Analyst working with 5 other researchers, all of who had the MLS degree. I couldn’t believe my luck at being offered a full-time job before I had even finished my degree, especially in this economy. As excited as I was, though, there was a part of me that was a bit nervous about taking the role. When I left my previous job in finance and decided to get my Master’s in Library Science, I had dreams of leaving the corporate and finance worlds for a future role of a Reference Librarian at a urban public library. And then one day I’d settle down and maybe work in a small-town library like the one I grew up with. Those were my dreams.

But here I was. Late 2010 with the economy barely back on its feet. With libraries across the country, especially public ones, having budget slashes and having to adapt to working with less. All I heard in my program was how if I really wanted to find a job, I’d have to expand my search in all types of ways, especially geographically. And then a librarian position fell in my lap. It may not have been in the environment I hoped. It may not have been in the city I hoped (I had thought I’d leave Boston as soon as I finished my degree). It may not have been in the industry I hoped. But it was a job. A job that was in a great city, paid well, and most importantly, a job where my degree was a requirement. It seemed like a no-brainer to not take it.

Fast-forward to mid-2011. And I was asking myself how I had gotten here. How was I working for a finance firm in Boston? What happened to being that librarian that I thought I would be when I started my program? How was I, again, feeling like I was getting a bit pigeon-holed at what I did? I worked with great people and found the work to be interesting and different everyday. But it was not what I had set out for when I quit my job. I had hoped for a better work/life balance. I had hoped for a bit of career development. I had hoped to be a bit happier about going to work each day. I had also hoped to find a role that could be transferable to other geographies should I want to move at some point due to life changes. Again, I felt lucky to have a job, but I knew I wanted something different.

Sadly, I once again felt like I wasn’t qualified for the “real” librarian jobs. I had very little experience when it came to the public and academic environment. And I had loans. And a bit of preference to living in a city on the East Coast (being single and all and accustomed to city-living now after 14 years). But all I felt like I was qualified for were jobs in the same finance environment. It was really frustrating and a bit saddening.

But I told myself that patience would be the name of the game. As much as at times, my heart was telling me I had to move to a new city and job immediately, I knew that wasn’t the smartest way to go about the process. I would really start to explore professional options where I could use my skills in areas that were not finance and were not necessarily in the traditional library setting. At the same time this was all happening, I was also raising money for Fred’s Team as I trained for the NYC Marathon. I was getting so much out of this experience and it introduced me a bit more to the world of development. I knew of some librarian friends who worked in development as donor/prospect researchers, so I decided to reach out to them to chat more. I also talked to non-librarian friends and family who put me in touch with people who knew who worked in development. I even reached out to a childhood friend who did campaign research to see if she knew anyone on the Obama campaign. I talked. A lot. And I emailed. A lot. I told my story. A lot. Anyone who would respond got my resume. Just in case they saw something that may be a fit for me. I owe a lot to my best friend who put me in touch with someone who then put me in touch with two more people. And my mom put me in touch with someone who put me in touch with the boss I am now working for. Network people!!! It is a goldmine. It can take some getting used to and it’s not always comfortable to put yourself out there but I have found that most people LOVE talking about what they do. Especially, if they really enjoy it. And if they really enjoy it, well maybe you will too!

As you may have figured it out, I just started a new position. And the kicker? I am still not a librarian. At least not by title. I am actually still a Research Analyst but this time working in the Development group of a local university.

I struggled with this non-librarian distinction a lot as I went through my job application and interview process (which lasted about 9 months if you’re curious, with probably more hard-core applications happening over the last 3 months once the Marathon was completed. I applied to jobs in Boston, NYC, Chicago, and DC). I was constantly asking myself, “why did I bother getting this degree if I’m not even going to be a real librarian?” What was the point? Well I think I’m still trying to answer this question but I know that, while my new position does not require a MLS degree, it is the research skills that I learned both in my program and in my previous job, that got me to this spot in my career. It is that love of finding not only information, but finding different resources, that is what, I believe, makes me a librarian and is what makes me so qualified for my current role, if I do say so myself.

Over the last month I have left both my more official librarian role and ended my involvement over at Hack Library School. I find myself still incredibly interested in the library profession as a whole, but realizing that my place in it is becoming a bit more as an outsider. While I find issues of e-readers, copyright, digital libraries, etc all to be very interesting, I won’t be dealing with those issues on a regular basis in my new role. I may never make it to another ALA Annual or Midwinter. I’ve already removed myself from some list-servs and Facebook groups that I don’t think will apply to me anymore in the library world. Trying to cut down on my information overload. But there will be all sorts of different ones and new interesting things to learn and different professional organizations to be a part of. I will still treasure all of the relationships; both professionally and personally, that I’ve made through my Master’s, Hack Library School, Twitter, and beyond, with librarians, but I know that I’m heading down a bit of a different path. And I’m ok with that. Because the life changes I had set out for a few years back, are now coming to fruition. I will most likely have a better work/life balance, I will grow professionally, I will have flexibility in my path, and I will continue to work on that scavenger hunt for information each day.

And if anyone asks, well I’ll probably still say I’m a Librarian. A proud one.
Five Easy Steps to Finding a New Information Career

April 26, 2012  Categories: News & Notes

We are kicking off a series of posts related to Career and Job Search Strategies. SLA New England member Sarah Burns has contributed our first post. More details about Sarah can be found at http://www.linkedin.com/in/kmsarahburns. If you want to contribute a post, please email slanewengland4@gmail.com.

New to the field of librarianship and looking for an exciting job? Looking for a change of pace from your current position? Not sure how your experience translates into new job opportunities? Want to try something new?

Many of us have had these experiences and most often, we end up wondering how to start the search for the new position that will add some excitement to (or start) our careers. When looking for a new job and with so many job sites, where do we even begin? Below are Five Easy Steps to Finding a New Information Career.

1. Dream Big

Most of us have trouble believing we are qualified or experienced enough to do our dream jobs. Most of us, to be honest, have trouble even knowing what our dream jobs are. So take some time to think about what it is you most want to do; not only work related concrete tasks, including the way you want to spend your day, but also think of non-work related things you want to do, including if you require the ability to work from home, or if you want flex time. After you’ve really thought this through, ensure that your career goals and life goals are compatible; a public library reference librarian will have a harder time working from home (unless they provide virtual reference) versus an independent research consultant who will have an easier time working from home.

2. Research (it’s what we’re trained to do!)

After creating a list of what you want to do job wise and what you require life wise, start researching Information Jobs with titles that are similar to what you think you’d want to do. If you’re unsure of job titles, start general! Think of organizations you want to work for and look there, search all jobs with the word “librarian” in them or “information” or even “knowledge”. Read about the different jobs and find ones that have duties similar to the tasks you want to do. See if the jobs offer the lifestyle you want as well, most job descriptions include their work-life balance goals.

To start your research, you can try job site aggregators like:

www.indeed.com or www.simplyhired.com

Look at http://www.linkedin.com/ and find people who are doing things that excite you, or people in groups that are doing interesting things; see what skills they have and what they’ve done in past jobs.

3. Refine (also what we’re trained to do!)

After doing the general background research and finding jobs that have the tasks you want, you can start refining your search to just those job titles. You can also start using job boards:

For New England, there are quite a few library and information job boards:

- **SLA New England**: Jobs in special libraries in the Boston vicinity are posted on this site as they are received.
- **Jobline – Rhode Island**: This site lists primarily public and academic library positions in Rhode Island and other New England states.
- **Maine Library Jobs**: Public, academic, special, and school media library positions for professionals and paraprofessionals are listed. This site is updated as new positions are announced.
- **Massachusetts Library Jobs**: Public and academic professional and library support jobs throughout Massachusetts are listed here.
- **New England Archivists Jobs**: The New England Archivists maintain this site that lists archivist and special library positions; it also links to other New England and national job search sites.
- **New England Jobline**: The Graduate School of Library & Information Science at Simmons College maintains a New England Jobline that is updated weekly with public, academic, special, school library, and archivist positions.
- **New Hampshire Library Jobline**: The New Hampshire State Library’s job links are updated weekly and include public, academic, special, and school media library opportunities. It only lists jobs in New Hampshire.
- **Vermont Library Association Jobs**: Postings for academic, school, public, and special libraries in Vermont are listed here for up to two months.

If you want to look outside of New England, you can always try the SLA Job Center at http://www.sla.org/careers/ or you can look at Library School Job Boards in the vicinity near you by finding a school near you by going to the ALA Accredited Google Map of all schools: http://maps.google.com/maps/ms?ie=UTF8&hl=en&msa=0&msid=105865627555958965474.000449740ea1f057a8b91&ll=41.508577,-93.515625&spn=89.94393,163.125&z=3

4. Apply Specifically For Each Job

After you find a job (or jobs) that meet your dream big criteria, you have to complete the dreaded time consuming application process. Usually this involves writing a cover letter and sending your resume/CV. The most important thing is to customize your cover letter AND your resume for each job posting. Describe how your skills best match what is required from the job. Even if you do not have the specific experience they are looking for, explain how your experience allows you to accomplish that task or how you have experience that is similar to, if not exactly what, they are looking for.

Great resources on how to write a resume:

5. Interview

So you’ve searched, you’ve applied, and now you have gotten an interview; this really is the make or break time for your job search. That being said, there is no need to be nervous, you have the skills and training and are a competent information professional, by this point the employer knows how good you are, they have invited you for an interview haven’t they? They are simply looking for the best fit at their organization for the position. So be you, be honest, explain why you’re interested in the role, the organization, and what you’re hoping to get out of it. If you’re the right fit, you’ll get the job; if not, you’ll find another one that is the perfect fit.

All of that being said, you still need to prepare for an interview;

- Make sure you get to know the employer
- Know the job description inside and out
- Know why the job excites you
- Think of questions you would ask someone applying for that role and practice answering them
- Have a friend help you practice
- Go prepared, in your best suit, and be yourself.
We Need Your Best Shots!

May 2, 2012 Categories: News & Notes

SLA New England will launch our Pinterest page in late May. With Pinterest, we want to create a visual representation of all the places SLA members (not just SLA New England members) work. We are asking members to send photos to our Emerging Technology Committee Chair, Stefanie Maclin for “pinning” along with a brief description of your role, company, and location by Monday, May 28th. We also need 1-3 volunteers to upload and ‘pin’ photos to the site. Please contact Stefanie, srmaclinATgmail.com for details.

Cannot send work photos?

If you are unable to send photos in relation to work, we are building the following boards: Favorite Books and Scenes Around New England. Please send Stefanie an email that includes your name and brief description of your photo.

Applications for Unemployed/Part-Time Employed Annual Conference Stipend

May 4, 2012 Categories: News & Notes, Stipends

It’s time to cast your vote to select the recipient of our NEW SLA Annual Conference Stipend. Voting will be open from Friday May 4 until 5pm on Friday May 11, 2012.

Read the application: Application1

And then, vote here!
ARLIS/NE and SLA New England Spring Program at EBSCO Publishing – Friday, June 1st

May 5, 2012 Categories: News & Notes, Programs

Join fellow SLA New England and Art Libraries Society of North America/New England (ARLIS/NE) members for a Spring Program at EBSCO Publishing on Friday, June 1st in Ipswich, MA.

Agenda

9:30-10:00 – Arrival, coffee, greetings
10:00-10:30 – Sam Brooks (Executive Vice President, Sales & Marketing) – Presentation on new products and services
10:30-11:00 – Editorial and Product Management Staff – Discussion of H.W. Wilson resources including Art Source, feedback about current products
11:00-noon – Tour of the EBSCO Publishing facilities including our Editorial Department and their scanners, our servers, and the rest of the campus
12:00-1:00 — Lunch – Chapter announcements and discussion
1:00 -2:30 — Ipswich Museum and John Whipple House tours

Cost: Free (including lunch and tours of the nearby Ipswich Museum and Whipple House)

Location: EBSCO Publishing, 10 Estes Street, Ipswich, MA (800) 653-2726

Public Transportation: Commuter Rail Stop: Ipswich on the Newburyport/Rockport line. It is literally a minute walk from the main building.

Driving Directions and Parking: Parking is free and available but we need to know how many spaces to reserve. Google Map Directions

RSVP Deadline: For an approximate attendee account, the registration deadline is Sunday May 20, 2012. Please register at http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/arlis sla_ebsco

Contact: Khalilah Gambrell, gambrell9899 AT SIGN gmail.com
Meet the SLA Solo Division

May 15, 2012 Categories: Division Profile, News & Notes

Our fourth profile in the Meet the Division series is the SLA Solo Division written by 2012 Chair and SLA New England member, Patrick Clapp.

The Solo Librarians Division is one of the most unique divisions within the Special Libraries Association. Our members hail from every industry, every field, and almost every corner of the globe. Our unifying trait is in our motto: Working Together for those Working Alone. We are called Librarians, Information Professionals, Research Associates, and a variety of other handles. We serve groups of all sizes from small teams to sprawling organizations. And we do it (mostly) on our own. It is a daunting challenge and it is not for everyone.

One of the secrets to the success of the Solo Librarian is the Solo Division. For many it is a professional lifeline. It is a place to turn for advice, for assistance, and much needed professionally informed opinions. The division began as the SLA Solo Caucus on January 1st, 1989. In 1991 it became the Solo Librarians Division. In 1995 one of our most powerful tools was established: The Solo Librarians Discussion List. The list quickly became a beacon in the night for Solos around the division. The list has remained an active node for conversations about current trends, product reviews, professional advice, and help finding just about anything.

The other channel of active communication between Solo members highlight another major strength of the Division. The Solo Division has a LinkedIn group with over 900 members. That is roughly twice the current active membership of the division itself! This indicates there are more professionals in the world who identify as Solos than have been collected under our banner and there are non-Solos who consider the Solo Librarians Division a useful resource in their work. The Solo Division welcomes both groups and would like everyone to foster a closer relationship with the division. Our diversity and openness make us stronger as professionals.

The Solo Librarians Division hosts a number of panels and receptions at the SLA Annual Conference. The Solo is often responsible for budgets, acquisitions, content management, and, quite frankly, everything a library needs. Therefore the Solo Division content at the Annual Conference is designed to highlight tools and techniques to help the Solo in his/her work environment. One of the highlights of each conference is the Success Stories for Solo Librarians panel. Everyone enjoys ninety minutes of stories about what went right. And because the members of the Solo Division come from all directions, there is also an annual reception co-hosted by the Solo Division and a number of other divisions.

If you would like additional information about the Solo Librarians Division you can find us at our division website here: http://solo.sla.org/. If you would like to become part of the conversation, the Discussion List is here: http://www.sla.org/content/community/lists/joinlists.cfm. and you can find us on LinkedIn here: www.linkedin.com/groups/SLA-Solo-Librarians-Division-156062
Congratulations to 2012 SLA New England Chapter Stipend Recipients

May 16, 2012 Categories: News & Notes, Stipends

We are happy to announce this year’s SLA New England Chapter Stipend Recipients. All will be attending this year’s Annual Conference.

**Student Travel Stipend Winner: Sophy Bishop**

Sophy Bishop just finished her third semester at Simmons GSLIS where she is the current president of SLA @ Simmons and is interested in Special Libraries, User Experience and Content Strategy. She works part time at Harvard Law School in the Communications Department and interns at Harvard Business School with the Knowledge Management team. Originally from Connecticut, Sophy likes to cook, bike, travel and read in her spare time. She is very excited to attend her first professional conference.

**Diversity Leadership Development Scholarship Winner: Brendan Thompson**

Brendan is currently an Information Specialist at Gnarus Advisors, LLC, and hopes to use his platform as the Diversity Stipend recipient to advance partnerships and collaboration with New England information schools, and increase diversity within campus student groups.

**Unemployed/Part-Time Employed Annual Conference Stipend Winner: Brandy King**

Brandy King is an independent Information Professional with her own new, consulting company Knowledge Linking. She has been an SLA member for 8 years. Brandy helps with chapter ongoing communication and programming efforts, providing practical advice for the chapter’s social media presence. She also chairs the SLA Social Science Division.

Congratulations and see you in Chicago!
Setting Measurable Marketing Goals

May 17, 2012 Categories: News & Notes, Professional Development

We are kicking off a series of posts related to marketing. SLA New England member Anne Chakraborty has contributed our first post. Anne worked as copywriter for a business-to-business ad agency for 15 years before attending library school. If you want to contribute a post or suggest a topic, please email slanewenglandATgmail.com.

At the agency I used to work for, there’s a director of accountability. His sole job is to find ways to measure, test, and report on myriad aspects of a campaign to make sure that marketing efforts are as efficient and effective as possible. He helps clients (and marketers) focus on and quantify what they want to accomplish. It sounds simple, and, if the goals and expectations are clear and measurable from the start, it can be.

As a librarian, you have to be your own director of accountability (as well as writer, art director, and everything else, but that is another conversation and post). It’s up to you to make sure that your marketing conveys how invaluable you are to the success of the organization. To do so, you need to set clear, easy-to-measure marketing goals from the start. Here are a few tips on how to do just that.

Start with strategy

First, look at the big initiatives of the library or information services group – even of the division or company as a whole. From that perspective, you can narrow down to campaign objectives and tactics that will help demonstrate your value – whether that’s telling people about a newly enhanced online resource or a service you’ve just developed.

Ask yourself which metrics would best show what you can do and how you contribute to the company’s success? What results would illustrate that you understand and can help address the challenges your company is facing? James Matarazzo and Toby Pearlstein have written extensively on such topics in the Information Today publication, Searcher. In the September 2011 edition of Information Outlook, they discuss the importance of being indispensable in the article: “Continuous advocacy creates opportunities for survival: everyone in your organization needs to know that you are the bridge to meeting their information needs. How can you make that happen?”

Be specific

Lots of companies ask ad agencies to build awareness of a new product or service. But awareness with whom? When you set a goal, select your audience. Is it new hires, managers, an entire department? In a blog for MarketingProfs, Laura Patterson, co-founder of VisionEdge Marketing, recently wrote that you have to “pre-set your performance target.” Be specific about what you hope to accomplish and by when. Often people don’t want to tie marketing to set targets, but that’s essential to gathering the hard data you need to determine what works and what doesn’t.

You can find examples of marketing plans (with measurable objectives and goals), marketing tips, and links to blogs in the marketing section of Library Success: A best practices wiki.

Keep it realistic

A benchmark can help you set an attainable goal. If you don’t have the initial data, post to the SLA on LinkedIn or another group and see if your colleagues have any relevant benchmarks you can reference. In How to Make Your Social Media Marketing Goals SMART, Tamar Weinberg offers straightforward advice on creating realistic goals.

You can also visit MarketingExperiments for research and tips on “what really works” in optimizing marketing and communications. Another site that has some good tips on communications is MailChimp. Its resources section has free guides on email and mobile marketing. These guides are focused on MailChimp’s services, but they do offer some good overall best practices.

Of course, your company’s marketing team will have some great ideas and tips on how to set and measure goals. Even if marketers are busy, they will appreciate the chance to talk about what they’re doing. Maybe you could even join forces.

Why bother?

The truth is, even marketers find measurement a challenge. A recent survey from Pardot found that 37% of business-to-business marketers surveyed didn’t track revenue generated by unique campaigns. That’s a missed opportunity for them to show how marketing is crucial to the growth of a business. And in the same way, measuring the library’s marketing efforts can demonstrate the essential value of the library. And that’s a goal worth setting.
Free SLA Student Memberships – SLA Legal Division

May 21, 2012 Categories: News & Notes

Following message provided by Tracy Z. Maleeff – SLA Legal Division, Chair

Do you like hearing about the latest legal cases or staying on top business and legal trends? Then consider being a Law Librarian! Law librarians work in many settings including law schools, law firms, government libraries and many public and private companies. They go by many titles: law librarian, researcher or information analyst.

If you’re interested in learning more about this exciting field, then join the SLA Legal Division. SLA Legal Division offers a wide variety of online education opportunities designed to sharpen professional skills throughout your career. Previous webinar topics have included using social media tools for research, business communication, and career development/job search. You can also find a mentor to help you learn more about law librarianship.

SLA Legal Division also offers several grants to attend the annual conference. The conference creates an environment for networking, communication, learning and other developmental opportunities for information professionals. Student membership is only $40. This includes one chapter and one division. Here’s the membership link: http://www.sla.org/content/membership/joinsla/index.cfm.

As an incentive to join Legal Division, the Student Relations Committee will sponsor a contest to win 10 SLA student memberships. Just write a short paragraph describing your interest in the legal information profession and send this to SLA Student Relations Group Chair Grace Rosales (tokila66@gmail.com) by Friday, June 22, 2012. Winning entries will receive a one-year free membership with SLA. We will need a receipt of payment and we will send you reimbursement for payment of your membership. If you are currently a member, we will pay for your next renewal. Winners will be notified by Friday, June 29. Please note that if you are a winner we would like to get a photo of you to include with the winning entries along with a signed waiver so that we can use it for future promotional materials.

Come join us and explore the exciting field of law librarianship! Send in your entries today!

Any questions? Feel free to contact the SLA Student Relations Group Chair:

Grace Rosales @ tokila66@gmail.com

Grace Rosales, JD, MLIS
Chair – SLA Student Relations Committee – Legal Division
Director at Large – SLA SCC
Research Librarian
DLA Piper – Los Angeles Offices
Brown Bag Lunch – Life Portfolios

May 22, 2012 Categories: News & Notes, Programs

SLA New England invites you to a brown bag lunch to learn about Life Portfolios and Planning for a successful and happy retirement.

Please click here for more information about the Life Portfolio concept and to learn about the Speaker – New Directions Senior Vice President Patricia Smith.

**Date:** Wednesday June 6th, 2012  
**Time:** 12 noon-1:30 pm  
**Place:** New Directions, Inc. 131 Oliver St. Boston Ma, 02110

**Directions:** New Directions offices are on the second floor of an historic 6-story brick building at 131 Oliver Street and are attached to the 125 High Street atrium. They Overlook the Rose Fitzgerald Kennedy Greenway, directly across from the Evelyn Moakley Bridge that leads to South Boston’s Fort Point Channel and Seaport District. Just a 7-minute walk from South Station — in the heart of the Financial District. [Map]

**Cost:** Free. Please bring your own brown bag lunch or pick something up on the way!

Register by Sunday June 3rd, 2012:  
Planning the SLA New England Mini-Conference 2012

May 29, 2012 Categories: Conferences, News & Notes, Programs

Hello SLA New Englanders!

I hope this message finds you all well and enjoying the beginning of the summer weather! As some of you may have guessed from the recent Programming Survey, one of my primary goals for 2012 as President-elect and Programming Chair, is to hold a one-day “mini-conference” in the New England area (tentative date: Saturday Oct 13th, 2012!). The aim is twofold: first, provide a venue where our many members from across the states of Connecticut, Maine, Vermont, New Hampshire and Massachusetts can meet and network. Second, allow those who are unable to travel to farther flung locations, to have at least a little bit of the conference experience close to home. Additionally, we plan to combine this event with a business meeting, in hopes of getting as many of us face-to-face as possible! There will still be a business meeting at the end of the year in which we elect/induct new officers, but it will most likely be a largely virtual event.

In order to get this event off the ground, however, I need help from all of you! I am looking for members from all of our geographic areas to assist me in the process of planning and pulling off this event! Here is what I need right now:

Volunteers interesting in serving on an event planning committee doing things like:

- identifying/locating presenters
- selecting and booking a location
- planning refreshments, laying out a road-map for the day
- Assisting on the day of the event

If you are interested in helping out (and I really hope you are!) please email slaneminiconference2012@gmail.com. I am looking forward to working with many of you and hopefully seeing more of you in the fall!

Best,

Devon McArdle

President-elect/Programming Chair
SLA New England Program: Creating a Quality User Experience on Thursday, June 21st at EMC Corporation

May 30, 2012 Categories: News & Notes, Programs

SLA New England Chapter welcomes all to our Thursday, June 21st program at EMC Corporation in Hopkinton, MA from 4:30 to 7:00. The title of the program “Creating a Quality User Experience.”

Description

What do your favorite websites, mobile apps, and other products have in common? Chances are it’s an awesome user experience which makes them stand out. User experience design draws on many disciplines from library and information science, including human-computer interaction, indexing, information retrieval, and even reference interviewing. The need for skilled professionals in this field only continues to grow, and LIS folks are in high demand to fill roles at the forefront of high tech.

Join us as members of EMC’s User Engagement Team give an overview of the fundamentals of fashioning a web-based experience which users will love. Using real-world examples from their own work, Matt, Adam and Gary will walk us through the elements of usability research, interaction design, search behavior, and metadata management. We’ll even have the opportunity to test-drive one of the tools the team has used to conduct research.

Presenters:

Matt Johnson, Program Manager, Information Standards, EMC
Adam Young, Senior Manager, Search and Information Access, EMC
Gary Yuen, User Experience Designer, EMC

Registration:  http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/S9LFCTQ ends Friday June 15th

Directions: EMC Global Headquarters, 176 South Street, Hopkinton, Massachusetts (link)
Rosenfeld Media Offering a 20% discount to SLA New England Members

June 11, 2012 Categories: News & Notes

Rosenfeld Media, provider of books, trainings, workshops about user experience has partnered with SLA New England Chapter to offer a 20% discount to chapter members who order from the Rosenfeld Media website: http://rosenfeldmedia.com/.

Promo Code: SLANEC

Promo Expiration: 12/31/2012

Learn more about Rosenfeld Media

- Website: http://rosenfeldmedia.com/
- Twitter: http://twitter.com/RosenfeldMedia
- LinkedIn: http://www.linkedin.com/groups/Rosenfeld-Media-1404987?gid=1404987
- Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/RosenfeldMedia

Thank you Rosenfeld Media!
2012 SLA New England Chapter Mid-Year Update

June 15, 2012 Categories: News & Notes

This is the midpoint of my term as President and I thought it was high-time I provided an update on how we are doing with this year’s theme: Communicate, Collaborate, and Commit. We have made remarkable progress toward this year’s theme and like to share with you that progress along with other updates.

Programming Highlights

Our first chapter meeting as SLA New England was held in Windsor, CT. We also held informative Brown Bag Lunches throughout Boston. Sandra Peters and Mary Chitty organized a Brown Bag Lunch on text mining. Claudette Newhall led a Brown Bag Lunch on marketing and promoting services. Claire Burday hosted our most recent Brown Bag Lunch on retirement planning.

In February, Fred Wergeles, SLA NE member and SCIP-CT Chapter Chair along with President Elect, Devon McArdle, brought programming to Connecticut with Dr. Craig S. Fleisher, Chief Learning Officer of Aurora WDC’s presentation: The Next Generation of Intelligence Analysis: Preparing Your KITs+1 for the Journey.

In May, Devon McArdle and Kami Bedard organized the program, Creating Customized Tools & Resources to Add Value at Your Organization in Portland. The program was so well-received that we are holding the same program in Boston. Many thanks to our presenters, Tom Clark, Betty Edwards, and Emily Florio, for sharing their knowledge with members.

To kickoff June, we held a program with ARLIS/NE at EBSCO Publishing in Ipswich, MA. Later this month, we are holding a program at EMC Corporation on user experience.

Become a part of the Programming Committee

Devon, also rolled out a new approach to bringing programs to all of our members. I know some members are frustrated that we cannot bring programs consistently to their areas. Putting on a program takes a team especially when covering five states. We need members to join the Programming Committee, bring forth ideas, assist with logistics and at times act as hosts. I like to thank the following folks for leading programs: Mary Chitty, Sandra Peters, Fred Wergeles, Claudette Newhall, Kami Bedard, Claire Burday, and Matt Johnson. I encourage members to reach out to President Elect Devon and let her know how you can help bring programming to your area.

Kudos to President Elect, Devon McArdle, for this year’s programming efforts!

Mini-conference

SLA New England will hold our first annual mini–conference in the fall. The mini-conference will be a professional development opportunity for members, unable to attend the annual conference, to hear from local presenters. We need any support that members can provide to hold a successful event. Please email slaneminiconference2012 AT gmail.com with your interest. At the mini-conference, a business meeting will be held.

Fall Social and Annual Business Meeting Status

After considerable debate, the board has decided that with the mini-conference being held in the fall, there will be no Fall Social. We want to devote our time and resources to putting on the best mini-conference!

This year’s end of the year business meeting (aka Annual Business Meeting) will be held as a virtual meeting. The format change allows all members to participate at the business meeting that elects new officers and welcomes the new President.

Spring 2013, we will hold a Spring Social that allows members to meet newly elected officers, in-person. We hope by making these changes we are devoting our logistical and monetary resources more effectively.

Calling All Volunteers

In January, we launched a SLA New England Volunteer Sign–up sheet. For this chapter to be successful, we need members’ assistance. It can be for a few minutes to a couple of hours. Please take the time to review the current list and sign up! So far, members have committed to Student Relations, Partner Relations, Awards, Emerging Technologies and Membership Committees. We also have folks who have taken on positions as Job Toolkit Lead (Sonya Durney) and Webmaster (Anna Burke). Last but not least, we had over 20 members sign up to be Day on the Job hosts. Message to hosts: As hosts, you give students the opportunity to get first-hand knowledge about our profession and you serve as a mentor for many who are preparing to make the transition from graduate student to working professional. Thank You!
Communicating with SLA New England members

Led by Communications Director, Gauri Govil, we launched the new website: http://newengland.sla1.org and re-branded our LinkedIn, Facebook, and Twitter presence as SLA New England. The new web site serves as a central tool for staying in touch with members. We strive to post fresh content to the web site for members by members.

Below outlines some of the new content one can find on the website and via our social media outlets:

– **Division Profiles** is a series of posts written by Division Chairs to showcase their divisions to our members and beyond. Thank you to the following contributors: Leigh Montgomery (News), Tracy Maleeff (Legal), Mary Chitty (Pharmaceutical), and Patrick Clapp (Solo). We encourage all Division and Caucus Chairs to write posts promoting their benefits.

– **Member Profiles**, we hope to provide 2-3 posts a year profiling a member. If you are interested in writing a profile or know someone who would be great to profile, please send an email to our Membership co-Chair, Katy Aronoff (karonoff AT bentley.edu).

– **Career Strategies**, Sarah Burns wrote the first post and we hope to provide 2-3 posts a year regarding Career Strategies. If you are interested in writing a post or have an idea for a post, please send an email to careers.slane AT gmail.com.

– **Marketing Series**, Anne Chakraborty wrote the first post and we hope to provide 2-3 posts a year regarding tools and techniques related to marketing services and resources. If you are interested in writing a post or have an idea for a post, please send an email to slanewengland AT gmail.com.

– **Weekly Social Media Posts**, Roger Magnus and Stefanie Maclin scour the web for relevant content and share on Twitter, Facebook, and LinkedIn.

Developing a professional presence: Write a post!

We know our members are very talented with lots of knowledge to share. Please consider showcasing your knowledge by writing a post for http://newengland.sla1.org. Please send your topic with completion timeframe to slanewengland AT gmail.com. We will review and let you know if your topic has been approved.

AND there’s more!

– **Strategic Plan**: SLA New England passed the final version. We are now working on implementing the plan and tracking its progress.

– **Pinterest**: We developed a Pinterest presence and we still need members to submit pictures of their work, New England, and Favorite Books. Please send your photos to Stefanie Maclin, Emerging Technologies Chair.

– **Resource Directory**: We hope this becomes a page that showcases our members’ services and helps web site visitors locate services

– **Peer Resume Review Pilot Program**: This is a program currently provided by SLA North Carolina. We want to bring this program to SLA New England. Pilot phase will kickoff soon. If you want to be a peer reviewer, please email, careers.slane AT gmail.com.

– **Return to SLA New England Campaign**: We have a campaign to contact lapsed members. Membership co-chair, Katy Aronoff, has distributed an email and in the next couple of weeks, we will begin a phone call campaign to encourage lapsed members to return to SLA New England. If you would like to help in this effort, please contact Katy.

– **Promoting who we are to a broader community**: Chelsea White and I are working on an introductory message to send to organizations not familiar with SLA New England. We hope our efforts will expand employment opportunities and partnerships that benefit our members.

The work outlined above is a team effort. None of this is possible without fellow members committing a few hours a week or a month to deliver these programs, services, and resources to the entire membership. Thanks to all the officers, committee chairs, and all volunteers. Your efforts make a difference!

Khalilah – 2012 SLA New England Chapter President
Launching Resume Peer Review Service – Pilot Phase

June 20, 2012 Categories: News & Notes

With our changing roles in organizations and the current state of the economy there is a need to provide members with a service that allows their resumes to be reviewed and receive invaluable feedback from fellow members that represent a wide range of careers. SLA New England will pilot a service whereby a member has his/her resume peer reviewed by another member who has experience reviewing resumes. This service was “inspired” by the SLA North Carolina Chapter Service – Resume Review (http://ncarolina.sla.org).

Paula Cohen, Sarah Burns, and Gwendolyn Henry will be the team leading our pilot service efforts. The team will select 3 resume reviewees and 3 resume reviewers. At the end of the pilot phase, the team will determine if we proceed with making this service a SLA New England staple. Note: Your resume will not be provided or shared with a third party service. It will only be shared with the peer reviewer who must adhere to the guidelines outlined below.

How to participate

Resume Reviewee Participant Guidelines

- To be considered for the pilot service, the participant, must send an email to careers.slane ATSign gmail.com w/ the following information:
  - Name
  - Email
  - City/State
  - What position s/he is applying
  - LinkedIn Profile or a link to an online portfolio
- Participant must be a current SLA New England member
- At the end of the pilot, the person must respond to an evaluation survey and be willing to provide feedback to the team.

Resume Reviewer Participant Guidelines

- To be considered for the pilot service, the participant, must send an email to careers.slane ATSign gmail.com w/ the following information:
  - Name
  - Email
  - City/State
  - LinkedIn Profile or a link to an online portfolio
  - Number of years reviewing resumes
- The reviewer must have a minimum of 2 years experience reviewing resumes
- The reviewer must be discreet with whomever’s resume s/he is reviewing. The resume cannot be shared and details of whom you are reviewing should not be disclosed to anyone.
- At the end of pilot, the person must respond to an evaluation survey and be willing to provide feedback to the team.

How will the pilot work?

- **June 30th:** Deadline for accepting folks to the pilot service as reviewees and reviewers. Please review above guidelines and email careers.slane ATSIGN gmail.com with your interest.
- **July 13th:** Team will select pilot participants and match reviewees and reviewers.
- **July 13th – July 28th:** Pilot Phase
  - Reviewer reviews resume w/ emphasis on content and context and to a lesser degree formatting/spell checking.
  - Reviewer sends an email w/ feedback to Reviewee.
  - Reviewer and Reviewee may schedule a call or meeting to discuss feedback within this timeframe.
  - After pilot phase concludes – the Reviewer is not obligated to provide further feedback.

Early August: Evaluations sent to all pilot participants.

Should you have any questions or feedback about the service, please send to careers.slane ATSIGN gmail.com.
First Five Years Cambridge Dine Around – Thursday August 16th at 6:30 PM

New to the library and information profession? Looking to meet more librarians/information professionals in the area? Interested in the types of roles new people play in the field? Been in the field for awhile and feel like you have some advice to share? Just need to take a summer break?

SLA New England invites you to a First Five Years Dine Around in Cambridge on August 16th, 2012. Come and join SLA First Five Years Representative Nicole Fonsh and other members for drinks and dinner to discuss issues affecting those new to the field.

Date: Thursday, August 16th, 2012
Time: 6:30pm
Place: Cambridge Brewing Company, 1 Kendall Sq, Building 100, Cambridge, MA 02139
Cost: Attendees pay for their own meals and drinks.

Schedule of SLA NE Members Presenting in Chicago!

July 11, 2012 Categories: Conferences, News & Notes

Below please find a listing of times when SLA New England members (names in green) are presenting/moderating/generally being awesome at the 2012 conference. We have a fantastic chapter and we’re proud to call all of you members! Look for the bolded names – we’ve included their Twitter Handles in case you want to live tweet from a session! If you’re active on Twitter and don’t see your handle, let us know and we’ll update the schedule!

**Saturday July 14th**

8:00am – 5:00pm @ Convention Center, Room E261

**Taxonomy and Information Architecture for SharePoint**

**PRICE:** $299.00 Member/ $199.00 Student Member/ $399.00 Non-Member

Many organizations struggle to organize content and are often unaware of the options available for creating successful information architectures. This course is designed to provide participants with the basic skills necessary to leverage taxonomy and metadata to improve navigation and search within a SharePoint environment. Techniques for implementing a taxonomy and metadata using native SharePoint functionality will be discussed, as will the tool's limitations and potential solutions for the integration and management of complex taxonomic structures. Additional topics include faceted search, custom development and third-party add-ons.

**SPEAKING:**

Jeff Carr, Earley & Associates; Seth Earley, Earley & Associates

**Sunday July 15th**

**Project Management for Information and Knowledge Managers**

**PRICE:** $230.00 Member/ $115.00 Student Member/ $300.00 Non-Member

As technology becomes more prevalent in the library, information specialists are becoming innovators and technologists as well as content managers. They are now actively managing an organization’s information assets (including new technology projects) rather than passively responding to requests. Project management concepts, tools, and techniques discussed in this half-day seminar will help anyone complete technology/knowledge management projects on time and within budget while meeting project goals. Knowledge of PM will help you avoid common pitfalls, such as vague definitions of goals, unrealistic plans, and lack of meaningful schedules. Participants will leave the course understanding how to put together a plan and budget, lead a team, and manage the project through completion.

**SPEAKING:**

Jennifer Swanson, Charles Stark Draper Laboratories

**Monday July 16th**

12:00pm – 1:30pm @ Convention Center, Room E253C

**Three M’s: Mapping, Merging, and Multi-lingual Taxonomies**

Developing a sound taxonomy is a challenge in itself, but what happens when a taxonomist needs to harmonize existing or legacy vocabularies, create crosswalks or mappings between taxonomies, or address a multi-lingual audience? This session will present tips and case studies for bridging multiple vocabularies, taxonomies, and languages.

**SPEAKING:**

Heather Hedden (@hhedden), Hedden Information Management; Marcie Zaharee, The MITRE Corporation

12:00pm – 1:30pm @ Convention Center, Room S401D

**The Intelligence Cafe**

The 2012 version of the Intel Café brings you four key competitive intelligence topics. The Intel Café is a highly interactive session that lets you engage with four different speakers. You’ll go to your corner and come out with information about using social media for CI, how General Motors used CI during the downturn, and CI technology tools.

**SPEAKING:**

Chris Hote (@chrishote), Digimind; August Jackson, Ernst & Young; Karen Rothwell, Outward Insights, LLC; Fred Wergeles (@FredWergeles), Fred Wergeles & Associates LLC; Ellen Naylor, Business Intelligence Source

12:00pm – 1:30pm @ Convention Center, Room E451A
Use of Social Media by Non-Profits

Social media offers a powerful yet low-cost way for nonprofits to demonstrate, through pictures, words, and video, how they are making a difference and why they need support. Whether you’re considering social media for your organization or you’ve been using it successfully for years, this session is for you. Participants will learn best practices for creating an engaging social media presence, hear from a nonprofit successfully using social media, and learn about exciting social tools on the horizon.

SPEAKING:
Scott Brown, Social Information Group; Brandy King (@KnowledgeLinking), Knowledge Linking; Bobbi Weaver, CA Western School of Law

4:00pm – 5:30pm @ Convention Center, Room E450B

SPOTLIGHT SESSION: Reinventing Library Skills

Case studies and practical advice for transporting library skill sets to new areas of the information profession or to entirely new careers, with a focus on reinventing skills to stay competitive in a tight economy; branching out, and developing in areas that are still relevant to SLA.

MODERATING:
Mary Talley, Talley Partners

SPEAKING:
Richard Hulser, Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County; Deborah Hunt, Information Edge; Ethel Salonen, The MITRE Corporation

Tuesday July 17th

4:00pm – 5:30pm @ Convention Center, Room E266

Success Stories of Solos

Success is measured in a variety of ways. In a reception-style atmosphere, participants will share their stories of solo librarianship success. Find out how others have broken down walls and created innovative services, and share your own story! Attendee participation is encouraged.

MODERATING:
Patrick Clapp

SPEAKING:
Kevin Adams, ESR; Hildy Dworkin, NYC Department of Social Services; Carla Robinson; Tanya Whippie, U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development

4:00pm – 5:30pm @ Convention Center, Room E265

Creating Organizations We Want to Work In: Combatting Defensiveness at Work

This presentation will describe how defensive routines begin and live within organizations, making trust, true teamwork, and honesty difficult. The presenter will describe tested theories and concepts that explain how defensiveness creates threatening and uncomfortable work environments. These theories will relate to how toxic environments feel to the members of the organization and what can be done to create workplaces in which we want to work. The speaker will provide insights into how all staff can play critical roles in creating a healthy workplace. After this presentation, attendees will understand organizational climate and culture more deeply and will see the connection between individual behaviors and their effect on the organization.

MODERATING:
Dianna Magnoni (@deemagnoni), Olin College of Engineering

SPEAKING:
Kathryn Deiss, Association of College & Research Libraries

Wednesday July 18th

8:00am – 9:30am @ Convention Center, Room E253C

UX for Non-UXers

Gretchen McNeely, Tilla Edmunds (Thomson Reuters), Debra Kolah (Convener of the SLA UX Caucus) and Mike Corbett, will share stories about their UX experiences, and introduce you gently to: relevant terms in UX, information architecture (IA) and service design; elements of design thinking that play into UX discussions; areas where content strategy, IA and UX intersect; the challenges addressed by effective experience design; and simple ways to assess the current user experience in your information environment. You will also learn to isolate insights based on that assessment and develop concepts for improving that environment.

MODERATING:
Stella Ota, Stanford University
8:00am – 9:30am @ Convention Center, Room E260

Keeping Your Taxonomy Fresh and Relevant

Once a taxonomy has been deployed, the real challenge is keeping it relevant, up to date, and aligned to organizational objectives. This session will highlight cases, tools, and best practices for governing and maintaining a taxonomy. The session will also examine the impact of taxonomy changes on previously-tagged content.

SPEAKING:
Matt Johnson (@syndetic), EMC Corporation; Fran Alexander, BBC Technology, Distribution, and Archives

10:00am – 11:30am @ Convention Center, Room E267

PAM Mathematics Roundtable: A discussion of issues related to mathematics information and libraries.

MODERATING:
Jane Holmquist, Princeton University; Andrew Shimp, Yale University

10:00am – 11:30am @ Convention Center, Room E271B

UX Caucus Roundtable and Business Meeting

Speakers:

Michael Corbett (2012 UX Caucus Travel Stipend Winner) recently graduated from Simmons College with a MSLIS. After obtaining experience at institutions such as Saint Vincent Hospital Medical Library in Massachusetts and Harvard Law School Library, he obtained a one-year, full-time contract with the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston Research Department. In his time at Simmons, he moderated usability tests for the NASA Astrophysics Data System (ADS). In addition, he moderated 30 tests for the Harvard Library evaluating a new software application called Library Explorer developed by Brown University’s Graphics Group. At the Federal Reserve, he will continue to work in the area of usability testing and assist the IT team with improving their systems.

Lisa Chow is an information professional with a few “library ribbons” including SLA Rising Star, LJ Mover & Shaker, ALA Emerging Leader and ARL Diversity Scholar. She is half of People Interact, a consultancy that empowers organizations to be people-centered through usability and user experience assessments, unconferences for organizational development, and leadership and career development. Find out more at http://bit.ly/peopleinteract

Lisa will talk about how she and her colleague used people-centered design methods to develop and complete a usability study of a library’s new self-service model consisting of self-check out machines, return drop boxes, and payment kiosks.

Angela Schmeidel Randall conducts usability testing on enterprise websites and applications, as well as training in user experience, usability testing and customer experience. She’s spent more than 15 years designing and testing web applications for companies including Continental Airlines, the U.S. Department of Veteran’s Affairs, Lockheed Martin, Invesco, and Nike. Her current projects include Brainiac, learning content management system (LCMS) that allows organizations to market, deliver and manage online continuing education with a self-service platform. Angela has a bachelor’s degree from the University of St. Thomas and a master’s degree from Rice University. Right now she divides her time between Houston, Texas and Portland, Oregon with her company, Normal Modes.

Angela will lead us through an interactive design exercise.

Gretchen McNeely is an independent research and information strategist with a background in user experience and content strategy. Most recently she worked at Ziba Design in Portland, OR, where she managed the library, led secondary research efforts, and helped shift the agency to an embedded librarianship project model. She has spearheaded IA/UX projects for blue-chip clients such as Portland General Electric and GE Healthcare, as well as being involved with internal brand writing and editing projects.

10:00am – 11:30am @ Convention Center, Room E270

Mobilizing the Message: It Takes a Village to Recruit Creative Problem Solvers

This session was developed in response to a study commissioned by Intel Corporation which revealed that the role of engineers in our society is not widely understood by teenagers. We will focus on ways that information professionals can publicize what engineers do.

MODERATING:
Barbara Williams, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

SPEAKING:
10:00am – 11:30am @ Convention Center, Room E264

**Suddenly Solo: What To Do When It's Suddenly Just You**

It’s a nightmare occurring too frequently: cuts in resources, budgets and personnel turn a group of professionals into a team of one. Join the Solo Division as we discuss the challenges surrounding this issue.

MODERATING:
Patrick Clapp

SPEAKING:
Katharine Arzeta, CH2M HILL; Gabriele Hysong, Rolls Royce; **Brendan Thompson (@Thompsonbr), Gnarus Advisors, LLC**

10:00am – 11:30am @ Convention Center, Room E353A

**Institutional Repositories: Learn from seasoned experts how to implement and manage institutional repositories, and tips for making them grow.**

MODERATING:
Jonathan Nabe, SIU – Carbondale

SPEAKING:
Stephanie Davis-Kahl, Ames Library, Illinois Wesleyan University; Jim Ottaviani, University of Michigan Library; **Lisa Palmer (@lapalmer14), Lamar Soutter Library, UMass Medical School**

12:00pm – 1:30pm @ Convention Center, Room E451A

**Digital Asset Management: Techniques for Indexing Non-Textual Content**

This session will provide an overview and case studies of using controlled vocabularies and metadata schema to index and manage non-textual content including video, still images, and audio files. The session will focus on the unique standards, best practices, tools, and challenges of DAM. The session will also address how the DAM approach differs from (and integrates with) the management of textual content.

MODERATING:
**Leigh Montgomery (@CSMlibrary), Christian Science Monitor**

SPEAKING:
Rene Aranzamendez, Getty Images; David Riecks, ControlledVocabulary.com; Laura Fu, Sears Holdings Corporation; Randall Marcinko, MEI
Hello SLA NE Members,

We are happy to present the BRAND NEW SLA New England Facebook presence. Check out our new Facebook page and please remember to “like” us which will give you access to the new Facebook page. We migrated to the new platform in order to avail on the new features and advantages that Facebook now offers for non-personal pages.

Please be advised that SLA New England’s old Facebook Group will be inactive in a month’s time from (August 15th) and hopefully we have got you all on-board the new Facebook page. Till then updates/posts will be posted to both the platforms and gradually we will stop updating the old group.

We will eagerly be waiting for your feedback on the new Facebook presence. You can contact us in case of any difficulty.

For those of you travelling to Chicago, have a great time at SLA.
SLA New England “Board Meeting Minutes” January 2012

July 19, 2012 Categories: Meeting Minutes, News & Notes

SLA New England Board Meeting
WebEx Meeting Number 579 103 394
January 17, 2012


Khalilah called the meeting to order at 6:40pm.

Minutes:
The Board moved to approve the minutes as written. The motion was seconded, and the Board approved it.

Treasurer's Report
Matt presented the Treasurer’s update. The Board discussed the 2012 Budget, which includes a significant deficit. Notes:

• The Chapter did not offer the Between Jobs scholarship last year, but the Board decided that we should keep the scholarship in the budget and award it in 2012.
• Additional costs:
  o Gauri asked if the $40 fee for the Chapter’s SmugMug account is included in the Archives fee. Matt believed that it is not, so it will be added.
  o Khalilah pointed out that we may need to pay a fee for hosting the website.
• The Board decided not to order new checks, which would cost $70 through Bank of America or $30-40 through Walgreens.

The Board also discussed ways that we can fill the shortfall:

• Continue membership emails
• Reach out to SLA members in the area who are not part of SLA New England (~40 people)
• Recruit a member drive
• New website:
  o Promote vendor sponsorship through trials, ad space, and sponsored articles/posts
  o Promote member benefits
  o Resource directory
• Listserv – charge vendors to promote on listserv
• Re-tweet/share information
• Have a small group explore fundraising opportunities for scholarships based on what other chapters have done

We need someone to help with vendor relations. Let Khalilah know if you’re interested.

Also, Matt will send the end of year report to SLA Headquarters by end of month.

Name Change Status:
Khalilah presented an update on the name change.

Outstanding Items:
• Listserv: Jen is waiting to hear back on the impact to the listserv archives
• Employment email account: Juliane is working on this
• RSS Feedburner ID – Gauri is trying to track down the Feedburner ID and password; once we have that information, we can change the name.

Committees Reorganization Proposal:

Proposal:
• Add virtual programming lead position
• Emerging Technologies (Stefanie Maclin) – no longer part of programming; more relevant to communications
• 1st Five Year Ambassador replaces new professionals (Nicole Fosh will be taking the position
• Membership (Roger Magnus & Katy Aronoff co-chair)
• Student Relations (Wendy Austin)
• Student Representative (Sophy)
• Eliminate:
  o Alignment Ambassador
  o Ethics Ambassador
  o Longstanding Members
  o New Professionals

Discussion:
The Board decided that the Longstanding Members Committee should be retained. Also, the Board determined that we may need a new position after the Leadership Summit if SLA Headquarters unveils a new initiative, but we can add that during the year if necessary.
Gauri has added all open positions to the new website, but it would be good to have a description of the position itself.

**Programming Update:**

Devon presented the Programming Update. From her email:

**Proposed Revision to Programming Committee:**

- Khalilah and I are proposing that we attempt to restructure the Programming committee so that it is made up of “Programming Leads” from geographic regions (Boston, Central/Western MA, NH/VT, CT, ME) who assist in the planning and implementation of events. Leads would be responsible for assisting with venue selection, being a contact person, and generally working with the President-Elect to get things going on specific programs. It would allow for more than one “Programming Lead” in an area if for example someone was more interested in setting up Brown-Bags lunches while someone else had ideas for a professional development program.

**Recent Events:**

- Brown Bag Lunch: Text Mining, Query Formulation and the role of Information Professionals, 01/10/2012
- This sounds like it went very well. Mary Chitty was unable to attend due to surgery on a broken wrist but Sandra Peters stepped right in and handled the event wonderfully.
- About 30 ppl attended – still waiting for final list from Sandra.
- Sara Schmitt tried to attend, but couldn’t not find parking and wound up leaving (told her we would take this into account in future events).
- CT Dine – Around, 01/12/2012
- Khalilah attended and discussed state of the chapter, news and notes and future programming in CT.
- 9-10 ppl attended

**Future Events:**

- Passing the Baton: Preparing for Retirement
- Hopefully Spring, most likely in Boston, possibly Metro-West
- SLA@SIMMONS: Academic Interview Process
- Juliane and Karen have both expressed potential willingness to help with this. Likely to take place in early April before semester gets too crazy.
- Would like to perhaps try virtual component or tandem event at GSLIS WEST?
- SharePoint Users Group Meeting
- Talking with Ethel Salomone and Betty Edwards, will take place at Draper Labs.
- No date yet.

**Website Migration:**

Gauri presented an update on the website migration project. Please send Stacie or Gauri any event photos to be archived or posted on the new site. Also, please send Gauri a personal photo for the Board page by January 25th. The new website launches on February 1st, so please send Gauri your feedback.

Devon had a question about the calendar: she couldn’t see it on the Programming page. Gauri thinks that the events that were added were only added through 1/12. Perhaps new events have not been added yet? The calendar is working, but we need to determine who will add the events.

The website is close to completion. Gauri and Khalilah worked on a card-sorting exercise and collaborated with Toshika Suzuki, who has taken information architecture classes at Simmons. Toshika provided great feedback, and Khalilah and Gauri implemented her suggestions.

Gauri met with Brandy King, who creates social media presence for businesses. Brandy pointed out that our Facebook page is a group, not a page. Brandy suggested switching to a wall on Facebook, so that anyone could join by “Liking” the page. A page will give us more features and flexibility, though we might not be able to move all of our current members there, and we would need to promote our Facebook presence from scratch. The Board decided that this might be a good issue to investigate after the website launch.

**Strategic Planning:**

Paula has only received one comment on the Strategic Planning draft. Please send your comments to her. Her next step is to have the plan formally adopted.

Khalilah moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:52pm. The motion was seconded, and approved. The meeting was adjourned at 7:53pm.
SLA New England “Board Meeting Minutes” February 2012

July 19, 2012 Categories: Meeting Minutes, News & Notes

SLA New England Board Meeting
WebEx
February 15, 2012

Attendees: Devon McArdle, Gauri Govil, Beth Giana, Paula Cohen, Juliane Schneider, Khalilah Gambrell

Strategic Plan:
The Strategic Plan will be a living document, and the Chapter will update it as necessary. It will serve as an expression of our vision, our mission, and the action we will take going forward.

Vision:

Paula – “Innovative” is an ambiguous word that could mean different things to different people. Should we use a more targeted word?
Khalilah – Does “Information Professionals” describe us?
Gauri – Should we loop in “supporting librarians and information professionals”?
Paula – Will ask non-SLA members what they think of the vision.

By Wednesday of next week, send Khalilah your feedback on the Vision Statement. Does this represent who we are? Is it clear to non-members? If we don’t get any update requests, this will be the final plan that we will put up to vote, sometime before 3/15.

Also, by 3/15, Paula will provide a template of the matrix we use to set priorities, and the assignment of who will work on each step. Khalilah will assign initial priorities, then send to Committees for elaboration. We will use the template to manage progress on the Strategic plan.

Website maintenance:

Although Anna is the webmaster, Gauri is still the gatekeeper for adding content. When we have issues, Gauri will work with Anna. Also, if Gauri is absent, Anna can provide backup.

Other Business:

Paula asked about the resume reviewing program that Khalilah announced, based on a North Carolina chapter program.
– Any professional support used by NC?
– Have a recruiter come to talk about what they look for, trends in the market?
  o Khalilah: Could this be a separate program? I’m describing more of an on-going service, rather than a one-time program (reviewer gets an email resume, reviews it, and responds).

Anna Burke will be awards chair and webmaster.
– Gauri will still be the gatekeeper for new content you want to add to the website

We will approve Jan and Feb minutes at the March Board Meeting.
SLA New England “Board Meeting Minutes” March 2012

July 19, 2012 Categories: Meeting Minutes, News & Notes

SLA New England Board Meeting
Simmons College
March 31, 2012

Attendees: Gauri Govil, Stacie Williams, Katy Aronoff, Mary Purdey, Cecilia Vernes, John Aubrey, Sophy Bishop, Penny Steele-Perkins, Brendan Thompson, Anna Burke, Anne Chakraborty, Roger Magnus, Matthew Burt, Nicole Fonsh, Paula Cohen, Nancy Burt, Khalilah Gambrell, Stefanie Maclin, Kathleen Schmidt, and Wendy Austin.

Khalilah called the meeting to order at 12:36pm.

Minutes:
The Board decided to table approvals until the May meeting.

Initial Updates:

Khalilah presented an initial update on Chapter business. From her email update on 3/28/12:

• Kicked off Meet the Division series for the website; so far Pharma and News Division have posts published
• Announced Diversity Scholarship – deadline is April 3rd
  o Molly McInerey (last year’s recipient) will help with selection
• w/ Nancy established qualifications for new stipend – Unemployed and Part-Time Annual Conference Stipend
  o Nancy is leading the effort
• Have small group brainstorming pilot service called Resume/Cover Letter Peer Review > now need to gather a group to help with implementation by end of April > most likely a new committee
  o See attachment of plan
• Designated Chelsea White to gather a list of companies/organizations that we can start an email campaign that describes What is SLA and Who are our members?
• Sonya Durney will maintain the Job Seeker’s Toolkit page

Programming Update:

Devon presented the programming update. From her email update on 3/28/12:

Programming Outline for 2012:

• APRIL
  o Short Programming Survey
• MAY
  o May 3rd – Creating Customized Tools Program in Maine
  o Late May – retirement program – possibly beginning of a series
• JUNE
  o Ongoing – Day on the Job, possibly DotJ meet-up/get together for all involved
  o Early June – dine around in Western MA
• JULY
  o Social meet ups – ice cream, picnics, etc
  o Meetup @ Annual – TBD
• AUGUST
  o Maybe another retirement panel?
• SEPTEMBER
  o Combined Fall Kickoff & Mini Conference – ½ day event? A Saturday? Esp as there is no virtual component to annual this year!
• OCTOBER
  o Fall Kickoff if we don’t combine with the Mini Conference in September
• SOMETIME IN THE FALL
  o Annual Meeting has been in December but declining numbers make me think we should move it around and try an earlier timeframe – December may just be too busy, bad weather threats, etc

Additional Notes:

• I would like to put out a short programming survey in the next two weeks as noted above, to solicit feedback from members on what they want to see happening in the coming year. If you have any thoughts on this please let me know ASAP.

• I would like to make virtual programming a priority this year, specifically to reflect our name change and to accommodate people outside of the metro-Boston area. To that end I will be talking to a number of people within SLA NE as well as the Rocky Mountain Chapter as they are running a pilot program to boost services to remote members (and doing a lot of virtual programming). Hopefully that will fill in a lot of the blank space on the programming calendar – especially with ideas that come out of the programming survey.

• Jerry O’Connor-Fix and the Strategic Intelligence department of The Waters Corporation are eager to host an SLA event – perhaps on a topic like Patent & Trademark Analysis – they are located in Milford MA. I will be soliciting ideas/speakers for that.
• In April I will be sending out feelers to various nearby chapters (RI) as well as other local proff orgs to see if we can arrange joint programming like we did in CT with SCIP last month.

Communications:
Gauri presented the communications update.

• FB fan page launching soon. Monthly or weekly promotion/contests with social media. Engage more conversation on FB. Would like feedback on user experience with links and other features on the Fan page. Devon suggest open in new window or new tabs for links. Brendan suggestions discussion on LinkedIn rather than FB. KG: should have better guideline on which social media site would be used. Cecilia suggests that LinkedIn not as helpful for individual intros, suggest link to LinkedIn or coordinated effort. Hootsuite being used to consolidate posting on different social media accounts. NB: Suggests cross-communicating between sites.

• Need social media guidelines
• Question about what are we doing on Pinterest: Stephanie looking for volunteers. Pinning pictures and photos. Pictorial board of the different places SLA members work. Not just a traditional librarians, etc.
• Next month onwards will look at google analytics for website traffic
• Do we Accounts for each of the committee chairs?
• KG: Send out list of who owns which page. Some will need to update website. If need to post can go through Webmaster, Pres or Pres Elect. NB: Suggest logins/emails for roles rather than specific people.

Archives:
Stacie presented an update on the Archives. She sent finding aid to listserv. Photo digitization project of pictures within archives, incl photo album. Still open for volunteers. Also looking for metadata of photos. Not all photos have places, dates, names. Archives open 8:30-4. Would Simmons students be able to help? Might be able to open it up to students. Digitization party. Next few weeks digital libraries should be done, and should have more time afterwards in the archives. Digitize first, then go through and ask for review of dates, names. CT valley archives are housed in two different places. Need to find CT state contact to get them transferred to Simmons and costs. CT members don’t know how to access the records.

Membership:
Roger presented an update on the Chapter’s membership. From his email update on 3/28/12:

I am new to the Board and will analyze and report on our chapter membership numbers on a periodic basis and have taken over this responsibility from Nancy Burt. It appears we have lost a number of members as our March 8th total is now 426 according to the chapter statistics report. This number is down from December when it was 450 and is mainly due to a loss of Full Members in the $114 and $185 categories. The fly in the ointment is that a separate active member report lists ours number at 446, and I am trying to get resolution from SLA headquarters to explain this 20 member discrepancy. It is probably due to either different dates or reporting methods. The good news with the latter report is that we have 7 new members from CT. Please see the attached draft PowerPoint (there are a couple of edits I need to make with Nancy’s expert guidance).

Katy wants to make it a monthly membership profile, and part of recruitment and showcase the type of members we have.

First Five Years:
Nicole presented an update on the First Five Years Committee. She is not sure what national level is looking for just yet, but she will provide more details when she receives more information.

Student Relations:
Wendy and Chris presented an update on Student Relations. Fewer people are participating in the Day on the Job event this year.

Diversity:
Khalilah presented an update on the Diversity Leadership Development Committee. They have not received any applications for the scholarship yet, and they have to meet diversity guidelines that SLA sets.

Awards:
The Awards Committee needs volunteers.

Emerging Technology:
Stefanie updated the Board on Emerging Technology. She needs help if any Board members have the time or interest.

Student Group:
They are planning several activities, including library visits.

Strategic Planning:
Paula presented an update on the Strategic Planning Committee. They have created document to describe role of committee. Needs a committee, interaction with the board and the chapter. The next step is to determine priorities. Provided document on how strategic plan goals would be mapped out. Should be on agenda for every board meeting. Next steps for KG and DM to review and prioritize matrix.

New Business:
NB: Clarified that only the Executive board can vote. Advisory should provide opinion and feedback on topics being voted on, but can’t actually vote.

MB: Part of budget includes getting vendor support. Need to happen this year or we will have a shortfall. KG: we don’t have a person in the role. Cathleen and Cecilia offered to help.

KG: showed volunteer sign up form.

Nancy moved to adjourn the meeting. Devon seconded, and the motion was approved.
Dear members,

In the spirit of continuous improvement, we want to make sure we are communicating with you as efficiently and effectively as possible. We’d appreciated it if you could spare a few minutes and take the SLA New England 2012 Communication Survey [http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/2012slaneommsurvey]

It should take about 5 to 10 minutes. We’ll be accepting responses until August 15th. And we’ll post our findings not too long after that.

If you have any questions please contact Gauri Govil at gaurigovil AT yahoo.com.

Thank you for your help – and your opinion.

P.S. Special thanks to Anne Chakraborty (SLA NE Member & Volunteer) and Khalilah Gambrell (SLE NE Current President) who worked very hard to compile this survey.
Cover Letter Advice for the Information Professional

August 6, 2012 Categories: News & Notes, Professional Development

We are kicking off a series of posts related to Career and Job Search Strategies. SLA New England member, Sarah Burns has contributed our second post. More details about Sarah can be found at http://www.linkedin.com/in/kmsarahburns. If you want to contribute a post, please email slanewenglandATgmail.com.

So you’ve found your dream job, now how do you convince the HR Manager and your future potential boss to hire you? You craft your very best cover letter. (And, of course, you ensure that you have modified your resume/CV to match the job description!)

Cover letter writing is difficult. Cover letter writing is time consuming. Cover letter writing is unfulfilling, frustrating, and even demoralizing; but not if you do it with the right frame of mind. Below are three easy steps to writing a resume and cover letter.

1. Explain why your skills match the skills required on the job description.

The reason the job description has specific skills and competencies is because the organization is looking for those specific skills and competencies, so explain to them why you have them. This doesn’t mean you list all of the skills, this means you explain situations where you demonstrated those skills. Don’t list that you work well in teams, use an example of when you used your amazing team work skills to benefit a project. For example, “by collaborating effectively with my colleagues we were able to meet our deadlines and complete the project on budget”.

2. Explain why you have transferable skills, even if you don’t have the exact skill set.

So you don’t have the exact experience they are looking for, explain why you have the skill set to do the required work. It doesn’t matter if you don’t have three years of experience using their exact system; show that you have the intellect to use the skill sets and experiences you have to accomplish the tasks demanded of you. For example, the job may require you to have experience searching a particular database. If you don’t have it, explain how you learn new search techniques and job skills very quickly, you are familiar with other databases, and that you have such a mastery of database concepts, that at one of your previous positions you taught others how to use them.

Another issue to address is if there are any glaring holes in your experience that could disqualify you from the job, explain in your cover letter why they aren’t as bad as they seem. For instance you may not have managerial experience, but you have supervised interns or that you are signed up for supervisory courses at a community college to learn more.

3. Explain who you are and why you are perfect for the job.

One thing that a lot of job applicants do is take their personality out of their applications by using standardized and formalized language. I’m not suggesting being less professional, but to showcase your personality by saying that you worked on exciting projects and that you enjoy team collaboration; instead of just being good at it.

To summarize, a cover letter allows you to market yourself. It gives you the opportunity to explain why you have the skills they are looking for, how you can learn the skills they require, and why your personality and work ethic are a great fit for the job.

To learn more about writing a cover letter:

http://blog.brazencareerist.com/tag/cover-letter/


http://writing.wisc.edu/Handbook/CoverLetters.html
SLA New England Board Meeting June 2012

August 8, 2012 Categories: Meeting Minutes, News & Notes

SLA New England Board Meeting
WebEx Call
June 12, 2012

Attendees: Devon, Khalilah, Beth, Roger, Paula, Stacie, Stefanie, Wendy, and Jennifer.

Minutes:
Devon moved to approve the minutes as presented. Paula seconded, and the motion passed.

Treasurer's Report:
EBSCO Publishing became a platinum partner (see Matt’s update for more). We are still waiting on SpringShare to return our invoice and become a Bronze Partner.

Chapter Practices Manual:
The Board decided to table the Chapter Practices Manual approval until Nancy can join the call. If she does not join, we will revisit the issue after her maternity leave, likely in August or September.

Annual Conference:
- Tweet Chat (Stefanie): It would be great to have a few people from the Chapter to tweet during the conference (thoughts on panels, speakers, etc.). Volunteers could use the SLA New England twitter account, as well as the conference hash tag set up by Headquarters. This would be a great way to bring the conference to members who cannot attend.
- Also, it would be helpful to have a chat room/hash tag in Twitter after the conference that attendees can use to bring the conference back to the larger Chapter.
- We may also want to recruit nearby Chapters (i.e. NY) to assist.
- The feed would be available to members who don’t have accounts; they would be unable to participate, but they could still view commentary.
- Stefanie will contact Brandy King to see if she would be interested in helping on this initiative. Khalilah also recommended reaching out to Sophy.
- Stacie has found that targeting specific, well-known people in SLA and trying to engage them can be a powerful way to build the conversation.

Giveaways/Marketing Material (KG/NB)
- Devon, Nancy, and Khalilah have discussed marketing options, including stickers, pins, and buttons. Ideas for content include updates on the name change or images representing New England. The New England images idea would support the content on our Pinterest site.
- Devon recommended selecting something more visually obvious than the QR codes we used last year.
- The Board also discussed potentially offering a prize, perhaps after a scavenger hunt. Khalilah will send out an email to see what options resonate.

How to promote SLA NE Presenters – Brainstorm (ALL)
- Khalilah has brainstormed a few ideas, including:
  - Write a post that provides a schedule of all members presenting
  - Profile a member who is presenting
  - Contact Ann Cullen to be interviewed as 2012 SLA Fellow
  - Devon liked the schedule idea, and wondered if we could as Headquarters to send us a list of SLA New England presenters. Khalilah recommended contacting the Leadership Listserv, as other Chapters probably want similar information. Devon agreed to take the lead on creating a schedule.
  - Stacie recommended using a mobile app, similar to one used to at a recent ALA conference, that would include a schedule of presenters and other information. Devon thinks that SLA created something similar for the Leadership Conference, but she’s not sure if they’ve developed an app for the Annual Conference.

Mini-conference (Devon)
- Devon contacted the Listserv to find volunteers to help with the conference, and she did receive responses from around four people. She will try to set up a meeting with them soon. She also wants to find members with experience in event planning to help guide the process.
- One key issue: will we have enough attendees to offer multiple, concurrent sessions?
- Roger thinks that the Maryland Chapter put together a similar event a few years ago and might be able to assist.
- Khalilah added that San Diego runs an annual Fall Seminar, and might be able to help. Devon may also reach out to the Leadership List.

Questions from Khalilah:
The current plan is the have the conference on September 29th. Do we plan to have a full-day conference?
- Devon is currently planning two 90-minute sessions, likely in the morning, followed by lunch and a business meeting. She is not sure if we should offer concurrent sessions.
- Based on the Membership Survey, about 75 people are interested in attending. Khalilah thought that this was a reasonable estimate, as we can market the event to other Chapters/organizations.
Thoughts on content:

1. Jobs content/mini career panel

2. Technology; perhaps a session from Brandy on using social media for branding, or something on big data

3. New/useful websites, modeled after similar presentations at the Annual Conference

Distributing the content/slides after the conference

1. Do we want to create a pamphlet of all presentations for attendees, or post presentations on Slide Share. Devon: We could use a sub-section of the website, or Slide Share.

2. The Board also discussed recording the presentations as podcasts or posting them on YouTube.

   - **Budget:** Depending on the location, just the rooms we use could be very expensive. Once we determine how many people we want to attend, we can start looking at potential locations.
   - Beth and Stacie agreed to help Devon; Beth with planning and Stacie with promotion and social media. Devon expects that the planning team will meet once a month.
   - Khalilah: We should decide what we want the conference attendees’ experience to be, as this will help guide us to the type of event we should plan.

Programming:

- Devon moved to request $200 for food and refreshments for the customized tools event at Simmons on June 13th. Roger seconded, and the motion carried.

   Khalilah moved to adjourn the meeting. Stefanie seconded, and the motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:45pm.

Updates:

- On June 20th, the Board re-voted to fund refreshments for Simmons event held on June 13th. Devon moved to approve releasing $100 to cover refreshments for the Creating Customized Tools event. Paula seconded the motion, and it passed.

- On July 13th, the Board voted to fund appetizers for the Chapter Meetup at SLA Annual. Khalilah moved for a SLA Meetup budget of $175 to cover appetizers. Devon seconded, and the motion carried.
Conference Registration is now open!

August 15, 2012 Categories: Conferences, News & Notes, Programs

SLA New England and our co-sponsors SLA Rhode Island are proud to host our first one-day conference:

Communication, Commitment & Collaboration

Saturday October 13th, 2012, 8am-3pm
Southbridge Hotel & Conference Center, Southbridge MA

Click Here for Conference Registration!

SLA Members – $50 | Student/Retiree/Between Jobs – $30 | Non-Members – $75

SLA New England is delighted to welcome John DiGilio, 2012 Candidate for SLA Treasurer and an incredibly active SLA member to present our opening session:

In the Balance: Tools to Increase Your Personal & Professional Productivity

Work, work, work… Most of us do it to live. Sadly, an increasing number of us also feel like it is all we live to do. But is it a sign of the times or more indicative of our own inability to effectively balance our work and our lives? Join iBraryGuy and librarian John DiGilio for an exploration of hot new tools that can make you more productive both personally and professionally. These are tools that can help you find your balance and increase your overall well-being and happiness. The same technology that makes you a superstar at the office can be used to make you shine at home. Come check out some cool sites and fun apps and strike your own balance for the better.

Other Confirmed Presenters Include:

Heather Hedden – “Mapping, Merging and Multilingual Taxonomies”

Taxonomies for content management and information retrieval are not static; they grow and evolve. Added content, audiences, and strategic partners may necessitate the bridging of multiple vocabularies. This presentation examines the methods and presents tips to handle three kinds of multiple taxonomy situations: (1) mapping one taxonomy to another, (2) merging two or more taxonomies together, and (3) creating interconnected taxonomies in more than one language.

Marcie Zaharee – “A Shared Approach to Developing Taxonomies”

Having a shared, commonly understood language among stakeholders to enable communication and knowledge sharing across functional boundaries is the vision for the MITRE’s Metadata Harmonization (MDH) Project. To facilitate understanding, visibility, and accessibility of intelligence community data assets, the MDH team has created a 6-step metadata harmonization process. A key step in this process is developing taxonomies to facilitate discovery of various artifacts. This presentation will provide an overview of the MDH workflow process and highlight best practices for designing and developing a taxonomy.

Jennifer Swanson – “A 30,000 Foot View of Project Management”

What it is, what skills are needed, an overview of the necessary steps when managing a project, where to go for additional training, and how knowledge management projects can differ from other types of projects.

Fred Wergeles – “Favorite CI Analytic Tools that deliver value”

This presentation will highlight one or two analytical tools and techniques that information professionals can use to gain additional insights from the information they have collected. Using an interactive real-life case study, attendees will use the tools that can provide decision makers with a keener understanding of their industry, markets, competitors and future business environment. The presenter will provide “analytical templates” that can be used to organize, evaluate and assess the information, and provide guidance to the attendees on when and how to apply the techniques.

Laura Crandall – “Across the Great Divide: Resilient & Practical Communication for the Intergenerational Workplace”

Do you feel like you can’t get through to colleagues or customers? Ever find yourself hoping that your co-workers would comprehend what you need without having to explain it to them–again? This fun-filled and interactive session will uncover the ways we inadvertently impede communication and how we can gain practical skills for any interaction—especially where generations mix.

Justin Brierley – “Sound Preservation in the Digital Age”

Justin will discuss sound preservation in the digital age, illustrating the importance of music and sound preservation while exploring some of the technical and taxonomical issues involved in that work.

Click Here for Conference Registration!

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The Tipping Point Between “Presdisposed” and “Loyal”

August 19, 2012  Categories: Conferences, News & Notes

From left to right: Tom Clark, Sophy Bishop, Devon McArdle, and Brandy King

The following post was authored by this year’s SLA New England Unemployed/Part-Time Employed Annual Conference Stipend Winner Brandy King. She is an independent Information Professional with her own new, consulting company Knowledge Linking. She has been an SLA member for 8 years. Brandy helps with chapter ongoing communication and programming efforts, providing practical advice for the chapter’s social media presence. She also chairs the SLA Social Science Division.

Results from SLA’s Loyalty Project showed that 43% of SLA members are “presdisposed” to the organization, meaning that they like it just fine, but if anything changes (dues increase, unpopular decisions are made, etc), they will reevaluate their membership and may not choose to renew. I am among the 6% of members who are fiercely loyal: We dedicate our time to this organization, we work to make change happen, and we encourage others to join and become more active.

My goal in attending SLA 2012 was to use my role as the Chair of the Social Science Division to try to transform those who are “presdisposed” to the association into active and loyal SLA members. I believe that making and re-enforcing in-person connections is a way to provide a tipping point for people to become more involved.

I took every opportunity at SLA 2012 to meet new people and great old friends. For example, at our division’s breakfast meeting, I introduced myself to everyone I hadn’t seen before, then actively sought them out during the rest of the conference to reinforce the connection. I followed up with personal emails and LinkedIn invitations and am in talks with some of them about potentially filling some of the open positions we have on our board.

When it came to greeting old friends, I encouraged them to join us for our program planning meeting on the last day of the conference and I was so pleased that several non-board members ended up attending. Getting perspectives from outside the board brought a valuable addition of ideas to explore.

The other very important personal connections I established at this conference were those with vendors from the INFO-EXPO. In my previous and current jobs, I did/do not have a lot of need for information products, so in past years I barely spent any time in the exhibit hall. However, my division leadership position requires that I be in charge of “vendor relations” next year and bring in support for our programming. Needless to say I am a bit nervous about this challenge, but stepping out of one’s comfort zone and learning new skills is what leadership is all about, right? I spent several hours in the exhibit hall this year, looking for potential partners that our members could really benefit from a relationship with. I participated in the spontaneous “unconference” in the social media lounge, where several vendors took a chance and had great conversations with conference attendees. And I came away with several connections that I am pursuing further conversation with.

A year and a half into starting my own business, things are going well and I am excited about the opportunities coming my way. But having financial support from SLA New England was so very helpful in letting me attend the 2012 Conference. I sincerely appreciate that our chapter has chosen to contribute the professional development of its members in this way. And with the personal connections I made this year, I hope that I am contributing to the long-term health and sustainability of SLA by encouraging stronger relationships among our members and our partners.
SLA 2012 – SLA New England President Summary

August 19, 2012 Categories: Conferences, News & Notes

This year’s annual conference was held in Chicago, IL from July 15th – July 18th. It was fun filled and informative 4 day event that made be very proud to be SLA New England Chapter President.

Keynote Speaker: Guy Kawasaki

The keynote speaker was Guy Kawasaki, “co-founder of Alltop.com, an “online magazine rack” of popular topics on the Web, and a founding partner at Garage Technology Ventures. He is also a columnist for the Open Forum of American Express. Previously, he was the chief evangelist of Apple.” He discusses his book, Enchantment: The Art of Changing Hearts, Minds, and Actions. He states that Enchantment has been key to his professional accomplishments. He states the below 10 ways to enchant your customers, employees and employers. The following are excerpts the SLA New England Twitter feed.

1. Achieve likability. Be happy, accept others, think of how you can help others
2. Be trustworthy. Trust first so folks will trust you. For example, Zappos business model.
3. Perfect what you do. Develop a deep knowledge that will empower your efforts towards success.
4. Launch product. Tell a story, plant many seeds to expand your reach. Use salient points to get your message across.
5. Overcome resistance by using data to prove your points.
7. Present. Tailor your introduction to the audience in order to sell your vision. To prevent death by powerpoint, Guy recommends using 10 slides in 20 minutes with text size 30 pt font.
8. Share information with others and allow them to reciprocate.
9. Enchant your upper management. Drop everything and do it. Prototype fast to reflect you dropped everything plus it gives you more time to iterate. Deliver bad news early as it allows you to find alternatives and reset expectations.
10. Enchant employees. Provide map that outlines goals and vision. Empower employees to take action and grow.

SLA Business Meeting Key Takeaways

- SLA President Brent Mai discussed the 2012-2014 Strategic Vision. For more details on Strategic Vision view slide deck and/or webinar.
- Finances reflect the first surplus in years.
- Loyalty Club donations will go towards a brand new SLA website. Read more about Loyalty Club and how you can become a member.
- Information Outlook will only be available online starting January 2013.
- Two new SLA Student Groups: Florida State University and San Jose State University.

SLA New England Presence

Our presence was felt throughout the conference. Everywhere I turned there was a SLA New England member. It was great. We had a great number of members who were presenters and panelists. We also had the following members who were honored for their hard work and commitment to SLA. Congratulations to ALL!

SLA Fellow: Ann Cullen

Leadership and Management Division Karen J Switt Award: Hope Tillman

Pharmaceutical Division Distinguished Member: Christine Geluk

UX Caucus Student Stipend Recipient: Mike Corbett

News Division

Joseph F. Kwapis Memorial Award: Charlie Campo

Ralph J. Shoemaker Award of Merit: Leigh Montgomery

C. B. Hayden Fellowship: Jessica Baumgart

On to 2013 San Diego

Next year the conference will be in San Diego. The format of the conference will change as sessions will begin on Sunday and conclude on Tuesday. For more details please read Ann Koopman, Division Cabinet Chair-Elect’s, post on changes to the annual conference. Lastly each year, SLA New England has a meetup at the annual conference. If anyone has any thoughts, let us know. I personally would like to re-trace all the places that make up the Three’s Company theme song. Anyone want to join me?
Register Now! October 13, 2012 One-Day Conference

August 23, 2012 Categories: News & Notes

SLA New England is proud to host a one-day conference:
**Communication, Commitment & Collaboration**
Saturday October 13th, 2012
8am-3pm
Location:
Southbridge Hotel & Conference Center
Southbridge MA

Click Here for Conference Registration!

SLA New England is delighted to welcome John DiGilio, 2012 Candidate for SLA Treasurer and an incredibly active SLA member in the Legal Division, Baseball Caucus, GLBT Issues Caucus and more, to present our opening session:

**In the Balance: Tools to Increase Your Personal & Professional Productivity**

Work, work, work… Most of us do it to live. Sadly, an increasing number of us also feel like it is all we live to do. But is it a sign of the times or more indicative of our own inability to effectively balance our work and our lives? Work is certainly a big part of our lives and we should enjoy and be good at what we do. But there is so much more to life than shifts, time clocks, bosses and pay checks. Separating our lives from our jobs is a form of art and one of the keys to real well-being.

Join iBraryGuy and librarian John DiGilio for an exploration of hot new tools that can make you more productive both personally and professionally. These are tools that can help you find your balance and increase your overall well-being and happiness. The same technology that makes you a superstar at the office can be used to make you shine at home. Come check out some cool sites and fun apps and strike your own balance for the better.

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**BRONZE PARTNER**

Go to Springshare website

Springshare
SLA New England Board Meeting Minutes 2010-2011 Now Available

August 24, 2012 Categories: Meeting Minutes, News & Notes

The SLA New England (then SLA Boston) board meeting minutes for 2010 & 2011 are now available on the Meeting Minutes page!

Check out what your leadership was up to way back when, as we became SLA New England. 😊

http://newengland.sla1.org/about-sla-n/board-composition/meeting-minutes
SLA New England Virtual Board Meeting – Tuesday, Sept 4th

August 29, 2012 Categories: News & Notes

The next SLA New England Board will be a virtual held on Tuesday, September 4, 2012 from 6:30 pm to 7:45 pm. All members are welcome to attend.

Agenda

- Approve August Meeting Minutes
- Communication Survey Results/Next Steps (Anne/Khalilah)
- SLA Peer Resume Review Results/Next Steps (Paula/Sarah/Gwen)
- Twitter Chat Discussion Update (Stefanie)
- SLA New England Conference Update (Devon)
- New Business
  - Unit Incentive for Member Recruitment Proposal

Virtual Information

Call-in toll number (US/Canada): 1-408-792-6300

Access code: 572 808 778

Web Link: https://ebscomeetings.webex.com/ebscomeetings/j.php?ED=209968197&UID=488148102&RT=MiMxMQ%3D%3D

http://newengland.sla1.org/?post_type=post&show_title=1&show_date...

Agenda

- SLA New England Chapter Update – SLA New England Chapter President Khalilah Gambrell (http://newengland.sla1.org)
- AALL/LLNE Update – LLNE Past-President Katherine Coolidge (http://www.aallnet.org/chapter/llne)
- Massachusetts Library System (MLS) Special Libraries Services Overview – Executive Director, Greg Pronevitz (http://www.masslibsystem.org/)
- And more

Lunch: Provided by Bulkley, Richardson and Gelines, LLP. For an accurate catering count, we need your RSVP by end of day Thursday, October 25th.

Parking: A parking garage is located at the base of the building. Attendees should bring their parking garage ticket with them and will be asked to check in at the security desk before proceeding to the 26th floor of the tower. At the time of departure, attendees will be issued a ticket to exit the garage.

Contact: Khalilah Gambrell, SLA New England Chapter President, president @sign newengland.sla1.org

RSVP at http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/slaOctmeetSpfld
Thank you to everyone who participated in the SLA New England 2012 Communications Survey. We appreciate all your feedback and suggestions. What follows are highlights from the Survey results, consisting of responses from 100 people, 91 of whom are SLA members and 87 of whom finished the survey.

New and long-term members

Both new and long-term members participated in the survey, with the bulk of responses coming from relatively new members. Of those who participated, 33% have been members for 1 to 5 years, 19% have been members for 11 to 20 years, and 21% for more than 20 years. In response to the statement “SLA New England Board Members do a good job informing members of programming, services and general chapter and national updates,” 42% of members were satisfied and 54% were very satisfied.

The Listserv serves many

Of all the channels available for learning about SLA New England events, programs, and news, the Listserv was the most popular. When asked how you prefer to learn about programs and services, 77% chose the Listserv – with the website coming in a distant second at 26%. And nearly 80% of respondents said that the Listserv is their primary source for news. In response to this question, Facebook came in as the second most popular choice with just under 20%.

Members reported subscribing to the Listserv for a range of reasons, the most frequently cited were to learn about events and programs, to get chapter news, for professional development, for information sharing, and for networking. Overall, members consider the Listserv useful, with 96% either agreeing or strongly agreeing that it is informative.
Of course, there is always room for improvement. When asked how the Listserv could be improved, you provided a range of useful suggestions, including:

- Standardizing subject lines
- Providing more informative content rather than just links to content, webinars, and the like
- Posting regular updates of Board Meetings
- Giving more advance notice for events
- Seeding the Listserv with questions to foster discussion

What about the other channels?

Channels other than the Listserv were much less popular, as you can see from the above chart titled, *I primarily hear about SLA New England programs, services and chapter news via.*

When asked if the website is informative, 83% agreed and 13% strongly agreed that it is. Most visit the site to learn about events and programs, as well as chapter news. However, the majority of respondents visit the website infrequently; 63% visit only 2 to 3 times a year and only 13% visit 2 to 3 times a week. When asked about recommending that peers visit the site, less than 40% agreed or strongly agreed with the statement, “I regularly recommend that my peers visit SLA New England’s website.” Note: this response could be due, in part to the wording of the question.

Facebook was a little more popular than the website as a source of information, and 72% agreed with the statement that the Facebook page is informative. Although nearly half the people who responded to the question concerning the reason for visiting the SLA New England Facebook page answered N/A.

Members’ comments were very informative. A few of you simply don’t use Facebook and others prefer not to mix work-related/professional news with Facebook updates. Privacy concerns were also mentioned as a reason that people don’t use Facebook.

As for Twitter and LinkedIn Groups, these channels netted 8% and 13% respectively. While most people strongly agreed or agreed that SLA New England tweets are informative (85%), only 48% regularly recommend that peers follow SLA New England. Of those who use LinkedIn Groups, most put networking at the top of the list of reasons for subscribing (84%) and most agree or strongly agree that the Group is informative.

What can we do better?

Many members feel the Board is doing a good job in reaching out and keeping people informed. In midst of almost daily information overload, SLA New England wants to make sure that we’re doing all we can to make it as easy possible for you to get the information you need in the format you want. Here’s what members said could be done better:

- Publish meeting minutes or summaries on a regular basis to keep members up to date on what’s in development
- Provide regular updates with all the news and events, rather than on an ad hoc basis
- Give people more advance notice of events – teasers for events coming up the next quarter, for example
- Populate and promote the SLA New England calendar with upcoming events, so members know what’s going on when
- Post more informative content, especially on the Listserv, rather than just links
- Provide more statistics/information about the health of the profession in the New England region

Conclusion

Over the next few months, you’ll begin to see some changes in how we communicate with you. For starters, we will make sure to post meeting notes in a timely fashion – and make it clear how to access notes across different channels. We heard that you want to know what’s going on, and we want to make that process as easy and efficient as possible. In the spirit of open communication, if you have an idea or question, you can always email us at communication AT SIGN newengland.sla1.org.
SLA New England Members Presenting at 2012 Joint Conference of Librarians of Color (JCLC)

September 17, 2012 Categories: Conferences, News & Notes

SLA New England is pleased to announce that three members will be presenting at the 2012 Joint Conference of Librarians of Color (JCLC). The conference will be held from September 19th – September 23rd in Kansas City, MO. This year’s theme is Gathering at the Waters: Celebrating Stories Embracing Communities.

If you are attending the conference be sure to check out the following presentations from SLA New England members:

Our chapter’s Diversity Leadership Development Committee Chair, Stacie Williams, is leading two sessions:

Let Me Upgrade You: How Librarians and Archivists are Using Latest Technology To Enhance Collections and Access
Session Date/Time: September 20, 2012 – 3:00pm – 4:15pm
Session Room: Sheraton Chouteau

White Screen/White Noise: Racism on the Internet
Session Date/Time: September 20, 2012 – 11:00am – 12:15pm
Session Room: Westin Washington 2

Our recent Diversity Scholarship recipient, Brendan Thompson will lead the following session:
Web 2.0 and Beyond!: Helping Seniors Interact
Session Date/Time: September 22, 2012 – 4:00pm – 5:15pm
Session Room: Westin Washington 1

Barbara Williams will present the following:
Seeing Is Believing: Using Targeted Videos to Discuss Micro-Aggressions
Session Date/Time: September 21, 2012 – 4:30pm – 5:45pm
Session Room: Westin Washington 1

At a later date, we will post a conference recap along with presentations on the SLA New England website, http://newengland.sla1.org.

About Joint Conference of Librarians of Color (JCLC)
Website: http://www.jclc-conference.org/about
Conference Schedule: http://jclc-conference.org/program/sessions
JCLC 2012 on Twitter: http://twitter.com/jclc2012
SLA New England Award Nominations: Recognizing Our Own

September 27, 2012 Categories: Awards & Recognition, News & Notes

It’s that time of year, friends – we’re requesting nominations for SLA New England Awards!

The awards committee can’t wait to bestow these awards on worthy chapter members, but we can’t do that without your nominations.

**Chapter Achievement Award:**

Recognizing a chapter member for outstanding committee work, performance in office, or execution of event-related duties during this program year.

**Distinguished Service Award:**

Recognizing a chapter member for a sustained record of supporting chapter activities over the years.

These may be for service on one or more committees, by holding various offices, or for managing different events, that when considered cumulatively have notably furthered the life of the chapter.

**Special Recognition Award:**

Conferred on longstanding chapter members as they cap their careers and approach a well-deserved retirement, in recognition of what they have done or meant to the chapter.

**Details:**

- Any member can nominate another member for an award.
- You may submit as many different nominations as you wish.
- Nominations need not be overly formal in tone, but should give enough detail to allow the committee members to make a reasonably fair comparison among nominees.
- Please have nominations submitted to the committee by Friday, October 5th.

Yes, the October 5th deadline means we’re working on a short timeframe here, but that just means you won’t forget to submit your nomination because you need to do it now…right? 😃

So, submit your nomination today and help us recognize our fabulous colleagues in SLA New England!


**Awards Committee:** Anna Burke (Chair), Alex Caracuzzo, Claudette Newhall
Usability Testing in Libraries: A Student Perspective

September 27, 2012 Categories: News & Notes, Professional Development

The following post was written by SLA New England Chapter member and 2012 SLA UX Caucus Travel Stipend winner, Michael Corbett.

Do a cursory Google search for “future” and “libraries” and you’ll find (among the naysayers) multitudes of librarians talking about the importance of certain aspects of the field, such as portability/mobility, social media, dynamic content, organization, filtering and contextualizing your support for your users. The importance of these issues cannot be overstated.

Alternatively, if one does a search for “user experience” and “libraries” the result set becomes quite thin. There is an opportunity here for librarians who understand User Experience (UX) to make clear that any talk of the “future” (and all of the aspects mentioned above) is also to talk ultimately, of the user’s experience. If one takes all of the aspects of the present-day information professional that are mentioned above, they form a whole that, if UX does not come into the thought process of information professionals, will have a multitude of nails being hit on their respective heads, with no overall form to guide. While various perspectives may work for Picasso, I think information professionals should make an effort to consolidate thought processes and move forward together. One of the things that most of the “future” literature talks about is the importance of collaboration and bringing disparate fields together to work for our users. The same diversity that exists between all of the disparate jobs of the modern information professional exists also for the user experience professional. I believe the future holds the recognition that user experience is the central purview of the information professional.

This is why I wanted to write about my experience as a student moderating over 30 usability tests at the Cabot Science Library for the Harvard Library System. The tests examined the user experience of an application called Library Explorer, a software developed for the Microsoft Surface table by Brown University Graphics Group and Harvard User Experience. The software allows detailed interaction with high-resolution, digitized items and enhances the effectiveness of any image-based collection. Here are some screenshots of the interface itself:

The home page and main search mechanism:

Click to view larger image

The edit screen, complete with “Hot Spots” and “Associated Media” which are functions that allow a librarian to upload semantically linked data to images for further discovery:

Click to view larger image

As a recent graduate of Simmons College’s Graduate School of Library and Information Science program, I wanted to share a few things that I took away from the testing sessions that I felt would be helpful to librarians who might want to conduct their own usability testing. The issues that I’d like to bring to the UX beginner’s attention have to do with recruitment, scenario construction, and some of the skills involved in being a moderator.

1. Outline the goals of the test – Identify the characteristics a participant must have

Most usability literature will mention the basic tenet of making sure you obtain the right audience for your particular project. Coming from someone who was assigned some of this reading, a possible reaction to that sentence is to roll your eyes and cry out: “Obviously!” But in reality, even with this tenet firmly in your mind or on your lips, it’s easy to miss exactly what your test needs.

During the testing for the Library Explorer software, the team set out to test only undergraduate students. This seemed straightforward enough: undergrads would indeed be the main user base for the software. As we moved through the testing sessions we were able to hone in a little more specifically on who the best population would be to test; namely, undergrads in image-based fields. The issue with testing only undergrads was that we were getting participants in majors or concentrations that were not particularly image-based, making some of the enthusiasm for the product in some post session survey questions less than stellar.

Granted, this problem could be mitigated by stipulating in the scenario that the participant should imagine themselves in an image-based field, but I think there is no substitution for obtaining the right audience who need no coaching to put themselves in the proper frame of mind.

2. Quantitative vs. Qualitative: What to do when there is conflict

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Granted, this problem could be mitigated by stipulating in the scenario that the participant should imagine themselves in an image-based field, but I think there is no substitution for obtaining the right audience who need no coaching to put themselves in the proper frame of mind.

2. Quantitative vs. Qualitative: What to do when there is conflict
There are a number of balances to be struck when creating a scenario. For a quick look into what a scenario is, visit the Usability.gov website which provides wonderful examples and best practices. One balance is setting the test up to obtain and easily understand both quantitative versus qualitative data. What I mean by this is not only does a scenario have to ask the right questions to obtain both types of data, but a usability team has to also understand when to rely on each type of data. For instance, one of the tasks dealt with the gesture that moves an image to the trash. The gesture to do this was to touch the image, and drag it off the side of the screen, as if you were removing a physical object from a table. Most users had some level of difficulty with this (most likely because of the fact that a gesture contradiction comes into play here, i.e., swipes from side to side usually indicate a turning of a page or some sort of scrolling option.) Upon examining the quantitative data that states that participants encountered issues with this gesture, one may think to re-evaluate the gesture. While this may be the best option, the qualitative data and survey results showed the team that the participants overwhelmingly liked the gesture after they understood what was needed. Again, the ultimate decision will be up to the team, but sometimes it can be unclear to which type of data you should give more credence.

3. Changing the order of tasks

Finally, I’d like to touch on the main thing that I took away with me concerning the actual moderation of a test session. Our test was not only structured but we also did all the tasks in order every time. I think this severely limited the sessions for two reasons; first, you should switch up the order of the test to avoid score creep. In other words, you don’t want all of your participants to do better on the last task than the first one merely because they become more familiar with the interface over time. Each task should be measured as independently as possible from the other parts of the test. Secondly, if the moderator is skilled in this area, I think it’s beneficial to the test results to give the moderator freedom to react in the moment for the benefit of the test results. Structuring the test when it needs to be structured and letting it be more free-flowing when it needs to be can be greatly beneficial to the data that you get from the sessions. Again, this is something ultimately to be decided by the team prior to the sessions, but having the ability to improvise within a test structure is a skill set that is invaluable for a moderator to have.

Conclusion

I’ve really learned a lot in the doing these tests and aside from the practical knowledge gained in the realm of user experience, my time at Harvard has really cemented in my mind the importance of user experience to the information professional. What our profession will look like in the years to come, no one knows. That said, concentrating on the individual’s experience of our products and services is going to be the best way to accomplish our ultimate goal: changing with our user’s needs.

About Michael Corbett

Michael Corbett recently graduated from Simmons College with his MSLIS. After obtaining experience at institutions such as Saint Vincent Hospital Medical Library in Massachusetts and Harvard Law School Library, he obtained a one-year, full-time contract with the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston Research Department. In his time at Simmons, he moderated usability tests for the NASA Astrophysics Data System (ADS). In addition, he moderated 30 tests for the Harvard Library evaluating a new software application called Library Explorer developed by Brown University’s Graphics Group. Michael is this year’s SLA UX Caucus Travel Stipend winner.
Meet the SLA Competitive Intelligence Division

October 1, 2012 Categories: Division Profile, News & Notes

Our fifth profile in the Meet the Division series is the SLA CI Division written by 2012 Membership Chair Anna F. Shallenberger.

The Competitive Intelligence Division crosses boundaries – it’s not just about analyzing competitors. At almost 600 members, from 16 countries and a host of industries – with a variety of job responsibilities – there’s a little bit of something for everyone! We’re probably best known for our webinars and sponsored/co-so-sponsored programming at the annual conference… Coming up in 2012:

- **October 4th:** Demystifying CI: Leveraging Existing Strengths to Build a CI Offering
- **October 31st:** Tips & Techniques for SharePoint Users
- For a full list of past sessions, see [http://competitiveintelligence.ning.com/group/researchers-librarians-info-pros/forum/topics/updated-list-of-some-of-the-sla-ci-divison-presentations-future](http://competitiveintelligence.ning.com/group/researchers-librarians-info-pros/forum/topics/updated-list-of-some-of-the-sla-ci-divison-presentations-future)

SLA members established the Competitive Intelligence Division in January 2007 to create a professional community that encompasses all aspects of this dynamic and essential organizational function. This includes planning, identifying intelligence needs, collecting and analyzing information, and providing strategic and tactical decision-support to management. SLA CID now has almost 600 members. We are comprised of information and intelligence professionals from a broad range of industries, organizations, and roles.

Competitive intelligence (CI) is a vital managerial process and activity that examines the external environment to support strategic AND tactical decision-making. Typically it is not limited to researching competitor companies. Organizations examine their markets, customers, suppliers and so forth. All those aspects contribute to understanding one’s competitive environment. Since comparison is involved, often there is great overlap with Knowledge Management to “know thyself” as well.

Our goal is that you will not only remain relevant on the job, but ultimately proactively assist with company decision making. You can be a more critical part of organizational success with outreach initiatives to keep you up to speed on the latest developments and activities. We offer many opportunities for professional growth and development, and members collaborate along the way. That includes continuing educational programs – virtual and site-based, professional support for intelligence efforts, as well as many more resources.

**CONTINUING EDUCATION** – Free webinars & archived presentations – soon to be expanded and available to members only; Conference Recap Programming in case you missed a special event; Other webinars – information regarding free/reasonably priced CE ops sponsored by other groups

**NETWORKS** – SLA-CI Division | LinkedIn Group – 577 members & growing … Mentors / Mentees and the social media communication tools above

**OTHER BENEFITS** – Recognition – grants & awards; Speaking / Presenting / Teaching Prospects; Volunteer Opportunities – variety available, great way to meet people, gain some new skills / experiences, and make a difference!

**COMMUNICATION TOOLS** – Web Site + Division & Industry News; Social Media & Communication – Twitter, SlideShare, Blog, Archived Newsletters, RSS Feeds, Discussion List

Whether you are new to CI or a seasoned expert, you will find the CI Division’s educational offerings, networking opportunities, and vendor alliances vital for not only personal career relevancy and evolution, but with leveraging of these advantages, a way to contribute to the success of your organization. **CLICK HERE** to add the CI Division to your existing SLA membership.

**About the Author** – Anna has been an active SLA member since 1986 and currently moderates the B&F LinkedIn Group as well as an Info Pros’ Community within the CI2020 Ning. Other SLA leadership roles included 2010 CID Conference Planner, NYC Chapter Employment Chair, NYC Chapter Downtown Luncheon Group Coordinator & Fairfield County Newsletter Editor. She earned Professional Grants from B&F in 2012 & CID in 2010, as well as being a Spotlight Speaker at several annual conferences. Anna taught the Published Source Modules of Click U’s CI Certificate Program, has [blogged for Future Ready 365](http://www.futureready365.com/) & contributed to [Information Outlook](http://www.inf Outlook.com/). CID "Intelligence Insight” Journal articles have included topics such as “The Mind-Shift from LIS to CI: What They Are & How They Can Help You Transition From (and/or succeed in) Your LIS Career” – SLA awarded Anna a Presidential Citation at the 2012 Annual Conference. and her ClosetLibrarian Twitter has been recognized in Information Advisor & Best of the Business Web. She is also active in AIP and other trade associations such as SCIP.
The SLA New England board meeting minutes for June and August 2012 are now available on the Meeting Minutes page. Meeting minutes from January-May 2012 to follow soon.
Save the Date: Nov. 7th What it takes to be a Good Leader? A Conversation with SLA New England Past Presidents

October 7, 2012 Categories: News & Notes, Programs

Join us for a panel discussion on Wednesday, November 7th with former SLA and SLA New England Presidents, Ethel Salonen, Betty Edwards, and some surprises on the question: **What it takes to be a Good Leader?**

It will be a lively and interactive discussion as these former presidents share their knowledge and experiences as to what it takes to be a good leader. They will also discuss how being a leader of the chapter fostered their professional and personal development.


**Wednesday, November 7th Agenda**

- 5:30 pm – 6:15 pm: Registration and Networking
- 6:15 pm – 7:30 pm: Panel Discussion
- 7:30 pm: Dine Around at Atasca, 50 Hampshire Street, Cambridge, MA 02139, Phone: (617) 621-6991

**Location**

Draper Lab’s Hill Building, One Hampshire Street, Cambridge MA 02139. The Hill Building is located across the street from Draper’s main entrance. The sign outside the Hill Building says “One Hampshire at Kendall Square” but does not indicate that it is a Draper facility.

**Direction and Parking**

**Public Transportation:** Red Line MBTA stop: Kendall/MIT and it is a 7-minute walk.

**Driving:** Folks who are driving should bring their Tech Square Visitor Parking Garage ticket to the meeting to have it validated. [Details for all directions.](http://newengland.sla1.org/?post_type=post&show_title=1&show_date=

**Contact:** Khalilah Gambrell, gambrell9899 AT signmail.com

**RSVP:** Deadline to register is Saturday, November 3, 2012
Register for November 7th Program: What it takes to be a Good Leader? A Conversation with SLA New England Past Presidents

October 10, 2012 Categories: News & Notes, Programs

Join us on Wednesday, November 7th at Draper Lab’s Hill Building from 6:00 to 7:30pm for a panel discussion with three former SLA New England Presidents: Ethel Salonen (also Past President of SLA and SLA Fellow), Betty Edwards (also SLA Fellow), and Anna Burke. The topic: What it takes to be a Good Leader? A Conversation with SLA New England Past Presidents.

It will be a lively and interactive discussion as these former presidents share their knowledge and experiences as to what it takes to be a good leader. They will also discuss how being a leader of the chapter fostered their professional and personal development.

Who should attend?
- Anyone who is interested in enhancing his/her leadership skills.
- Anyone who wants to explore leadership opportunities with SLA on a chapter and/or division level.
- Anyone who currently holds or held a chapter or division leadership position. We want to hear your experiences too!

Agenda
5:30pm – 6:00pm: Registration and Networking
6:00pm – 7:15pm: Panel Discussion
7:30pm: Dine Around at Atasca, 50 Hampshire Street, Cambridge, MA 02139

Registration: http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/slapastpresNov2012 (Deadline to register is Saturday, November 3, 2012)

Location: Draper Lab’s Hill Building, One Hampshire Street, Cambridge MA 02139. The Hill Building is located across the street from Draper’s main entrance. The sign outside the Hill Building says “One Hampshire at Kendall Square” but does not indicate that it is a Draper facility.

Direction and Parking
- Public Transportation: Red Line MBTA stop: Kendall/MIT and it is a 7-minute walk.
- Driving: Folks who are driving should bring their Tech Square Visitor Parking Garage ticket to the meeting to have it validated. All directions are available at http://www.draper.com/maps_directions.html#cambridge.

Special Thanks to Betty Edwards and Draper Labs for their support of this program!

Contact: Khalilah Gambrell, kgambrell ATSign ebscohost.com
SLA New England Award Winners!

October 18, 2012 Categories: Awards & Recognition, News & Notes

The SLA New England Awards Committee is pleased to present the 2012 award winners to the chapter!

As a reminder, a description of each of the awards is included below.

**Chapter Achievement Award:**
**Paula Cohen, Emily Florio, Stefanie Maclin**
Recognizing a chapter member for outstanding committee work, performance in office, or execution of event-related duties during this program year.

**Distinguished Service Award:** **Betty Edwards**
Recognizing a chapter member for a sustained record of supporting chapter activities over the years.

These may be for service on one or more committees, by holding various offices, or for managing different events, that when considered cumulatively have notably furthered the life of the chapter.

**Special Recognition Award:** **Jean Scanlan**
Conferred on longstanding chapter members as they cap their careers and approach a well-deserved retirement, in recognition of what they have done or meant to the chapter.

Please join us in congratulating our award winners!

The chapter is planning on honoring our 2012 award winners at a future event. We will let everyone know as soon as we have more details so we can all congratulate them in person. Until then…

**Congratulations & Thank You Paula, Emily, Stefanie, Betty, and Jean!**
Due to Hurricane Sandy, October Chapter Meeting in Springfield rescheduled for Tuesday, November 27th

October 29, 2012 Categories: News & Notes, Programs

Due to Sandy, the meeting has been rescheduled for Tuesday, November 27th. Apologies for the cancellation. Please be safe!

We will post new details later in the week.

– Khalilah
Call for 2013 Chapter Officer Nominations – Open until December 1st!

November 3, 2012 Categories: News & Notes

Are you looking to develop your leadership skills? SLA NE is looking for a few good board members! We have open positions of President-elect, Secretary and Director of Communications.

**President-elect:** This position serves as Programming Chair. Plan and coordinate the programs throughout the region for 2013. You’ll also gain in depth knowledge about the chapter mechanics before serving as Chapter President the following year (2014), and then provide guidance to board members as Past President (2015).

**Secretary:** A two year term. The Secretary records chapter discussion and decisions by taking minutes at every board meeting. Secretary also plays an important role on decisions made by the Executive board.

**Director of Communications:** A two year term. Director of Communications is responsible for establishing and maintaining communication channels between the Chapter board and Chapter members. The primary form is the Chapter website. S/he also oversees the Chapter’s pages on Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn and other social media presence, to keep the membership informed of news, events, programs etc. through the listserv as appropriate. S/he supervises the maintenance of the listserv and can delegate to various members by establishing a committee as needed.

For specifics about each role, check out the [Chapter Practices](http://newengland.sla1.org/?post-type=post&show_title=1&show_date=) on the chapter website.

Email Nancy Burt ([nancy.b.burt@gmail](mailto:nancy.b.burt@gmail)) to submit your nomination. You may nominate yourself or another SLA NE chapter member. Please include the person’s name, email address, and a brief description of why you think they fit the role.

Want to know more about what it’s like to be a chapter leader? Attend the Conversation with Past Presidents on November 7th. More details are on our website.

Looking forward to a lively 2013!

**Nominating Committee**

Nancy Burt, Jamie Emery, Juliane Schneider
Attend Career Webinars at Portland (ME) Public Library and Get Your Resume Reviewed!

November 3, 2012 Categories: Professional Development, Programs

Join the Special Library Association of New England at Portland Public Library for the following employment webinars live-streamed from the Rocky Mountain SLA Chapter:

Bring your resume and stay an additional 1/2 hour for a resume swap with other attendees. An extra pair of eyes on your resume is always helpful.

**Transferable Skills: Identifying and Marketing Your Unique Value to Non-LIS Employers**

November 15, 2012 2:00 PM

Lower Level, Meeting Room #5

Transferable skills are those business skills that LIS professionals can deploy across a wide range of job opportunities, not necessarily within the “LIS” framework. How do you identify – and then compellingly market – those transferable skills? What language do you use to translate your business skills into a broader range of job opportunities? Can those skills be used to create and pitch new jobs? Find out how to frame – and get paid for – your information and business expertise. This webinar will help you to:

- Identify your business skills that transfer into multiple career opportunities;
- Translate those skills into non-LIS language; and
- Find opportunities (i.e., job openings) for which those skills are appropriate.

**So Tell Me About Yourself: Personal and Professional Branding for LIS Students and Professionals**

December 20, 2012 2:00 PM

Lower Level, Meeting Room #5

The changing job market means that LIS professionals need to think creatively and flexibly about the valuable and unique skills they bring to the marketplace – both to “traditional” library and information positions and to positions outside of the LIS world. What unique value do you bring to potential employers and how do you describe that value? What actions can you take to further enhance your reputation? Focusing on your professional brand will help you think about how to frame and position your skills in a way that opens up the greatest number of career opportunities.

This webinar will enable you to:

- Evaluate and put your “personal brand” to work for you;
- Take practical steps to showcase your brand online; and
- Develop a compelling “brand pitch” that showcases your value to various audiences.

Webinars run one hour.

To sign up please visit Survey Monkey: [https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/BRWTFFP](https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/BRWTFFP) or contact Sonya Durney @ (207)347-1870 or durney@portland.lib.me.us

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Sonya Durney
RSVP for Nov. 27th Free Lunch & Learn about Massachusetts Library System services in Springfield, MA

November 6, 2012 Categories: News & Notes, Programs

Please join us on Tuesday, November 27th, 2012 from noon to 1:30pm for a Lunch & Learn about the Massachusetts Library System at Bulkley, Richardson and Gelinas, LLP – Springfield office (http://www.bulkley.com/). Greg Pronevitz, Executive Director of the Massachusetts Library System (MLS) will address:

- The role of special libraries within MLS
- Benefits of being a part of MLS
  - Onsite training and professional development
  - Access to Lynda.com
  - Statewide electronic content
- How can MLS be relevant and valuable to your library and its customers?

Lunch:  Is Free! Provided by Bulkley, Richardson and Gelinas, LLP. For an accurate catering count, we need your RSVP by end of day Friday, November 23rd. RSVP at http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/slaNovmeetSpfld

Parking: A parking garage is located at the base of the building. Attendees should bring their parking garage ticket with them and will be asked to check in at the security desk before proceeding to the 26th floor of the tower. At the time of departure, attendees will be issued a ticket to exit the garage.

Contact: Khalilah Gambrell, SLA New England Chapter President, gambrell9899@gmail.com

    Special thanks to Kathy Coolidge and Bulkley, Richardson and Gelinas, LLP for providing the meeting space and complimentary lunch!
SLA New England Facebook Contest

November 11, 2012 Categories: News & Notes

SLA New England brings to you an exciting Facebook contest in which we will choose one original photograph and the winning picture will be posted on our Facebook cover page and chapter [website](http://newengland.sla1.org/?post-type=post&show_title=1&show_date=...). The rules are as follows:

- The contest will be held bi-monthly (once every two months)
- The theme of the contest will be New England. The photos could be anything from nature to history to people.
- The photograph submitted should to be an original photograph. The submitted pictures will be displayed via the SLA NE SmugMug Gallery. Also, these pictures maybe used on the website and/or for promotional material.
- The winner will be chosen via a poll on our Facebook page.
- The winning picture will be displayed on our Facebook page and the SLA NE website for two months till the next winner is chosen.
- Last but not the least; the winner will be awarded a gift card of $25.

So, all you Smartphone and camera photographers get your cameras rolling and start taking those breathtaking pictures. And, just to remind you fall is the pride of New England and although the beautiful fall colors might have fallen but you may still be able to capture some great shots. Please submit the photos to slanewengland@gmail.com or to gaurigovil@yahoo.com. The deadline to submit the pictures for our first rookie contest has been extended to November 29th.

Hope those affected by Sandy and the Nor’easter must have recovered from these storms and we pray for everyone’s well-being.

Thanks,

Happy clicking.

Gauri Govil

Director, Communication
End of the Year Business Meeting

November 13, 2012 Categories: News & Notes

Topic: SLA New England Business Meeting
Date: Wednesday, December 12, 2012
Time: 6:30 pm, Eastern Standard Time (New York, GMT-05:00)
Meeting Number: 574 298 218
Password: (This meeting does not require a password.)

To join the meeting online

1. Go to https://ebscomeetings.webex.com/ebscomeetings/j.php?ED=215945882&UID=488148102&RT=MiMxMQ%3D%3D
2. If requested, enter your name and email address.
3. If a password is required, enter the meeting password: (This meeting does not require a password.)
4. Click “Join”.
5. If the meeting includes a teleconference, follow the instructions that appear on your screen.

To receive a call back, provide your phone number when you join the meeting, or call the number below and enter the access code.
Call-in toll number (US/Canada): 1-408-792-6300
Global call-in numbers: https://ebscomeetings.webex.com/ebscomeetings/globalcallin.php?serviceType=MC&ED=215945882&tollFree=0

Access code:574 298 218

Sign up for a free trial of WebEx
http://www.webex.com/go/mcemfreetrial

CCP:+14087926300×574298218#

IMPORTANT NOTICE: This WebEx service includes a feature that allows audio and any documents and other materials exchanged or viewed during the session to be recorded. By joining this session, you automatically consent to such recordings. If you do not consent to the recording, discuss your concerns with the meeting host prior to the start of the recording or do not join the session. Please note that any such recordings may be subject to discovery in the event of litigation.
Thoughts on Our Inaugural Fall Conference

November 13, 2012 Categories: Conferences, News & Notes, Programs

Just about a month ago SLA New England and our partners SLA Rhode Island, held our inaugural Fall Conference in Southbridge, MA and if I may say, as one of the organizers, it was a smashing success!

Over 50 attendees turned out to see John DiGilio, SLA Treasurer-elect give the plenary address on work/life balance: "In the Balance: Tools to Increase Your Personal & Professional Productivity". He passed on a lot of great info and was an engaging and creative presenter. If you ever get the chance to see John speak in person – do it!

Here’s me and John during the break

After the plenary session we split up into smaller groups and attended workshops on taxonomy, project management, social media in libraries, multi-generational workplaces, favorite CI analytic tools and more!

Here are some of the things your fellow SLA NE members had to say:

…”...the topics were all so timely and helpful!”

“This was my first SLA meeting. I enjoyed hearing from librarians from different fields. I would go again!”

“great location – beautiful!” and “the food was great!”

“I was pleased that the price was so reasonable” and “the topics were interesting and the speakers engaging!”

Throughout the day I watched everyone participating in lively discussions, networking and talking to our vendors. EBSCO Publishing, Infotrieve and Springshare were all on hand to discuss their products and tools and we can’t thank them enough for their support. We also couldn’t have made this event possible without Thomson Reuters, LexisNexis and Recommind.

Lunch was a fun and relaxing time when socializing continued and raffle prize winners were drawn.

The raffle prizes were truly fantastic and included an Italian food basket, specialty handmade chocolates, a family pass to Sturbridge Village and gift certificates to several stores just to name a few!

It was such a pleasure to see so many members, students, and partners interacting and having a fun, informative day. With such a great event this year we really hope to make this a tradition and try it again next year! If you have any thoughts or would like to be on the planning committee for the SLA NE Fall Conference 2013 – let me know!

Sincerely,

Devon McArdle
SLA NE President-elect & Programming chair
devonannmcardle@gmail.com
SLA New England Places to Listen to Dec. 20th Virtual Career Program

November 26, 2012 Categories: News & Notes, Professional Development, Programs

Several SLA New England members will host members listening to the December 20th Rocky Mountain SLA Chapter webinar: *So Tell Me About Yourself: Personal and Professional Branding for LIS Students and Professionals* at their facilities.

**Date/Time:** Thursday, December 20, 2012 at 2pm ET

**Webinar Host Sites:**

– **Middletown Library Service Center:** 786 South Main St., Middletown, CT
– **Olin College of Engineering:** 1000 Olin Way Needham, MA
– **Worcester Public Library:** 3 Salem Street Worcester, MA
– **Portland Public Library:** 5 Monument Square Portland, ME (includes resume review)

**Registration:** Please RSVP by Tuesday, December 18th.

**Contact:** Khalilah Gambrell, gambrell9899 ATSIGN gmail.com
SLA New England Business Meeting Dec. 12th!

December 1, 2012 Categories: News & Notes, Programs

The SLA New England End of Year Business Meeting is right around the corner and we want you to be there! Hear what we’ve done this year and what we’d like to do in 2013! Watch the Gavel be passed from Khalilah to Devon!

You have three options for attending: one in Boston, one in South Hadley or entirely virtually!

The in-person events will run from 6-7:15pm with a dine around to follow while the virtual meeting will run from 6:30-7:15pm. SLA New England will also be providing some free appetizers prior to the in-person meetings!

Boston (with President Khalilah Gambrell):

Fish & Richardson, One Marina Park Drive Boston MA (One Marina Park Drive is located on Fan Pier between the Moakley Federal Courthouse and the ICA.)

Directions: are available at http://www.fr.com/Boston/

Public Parking: There is limited metered parking as well as several parking lots. The cost to use those lots will likely range from $10-$20.

Nearest Public Transportation: Silver Line (Courthouse Stop) or Red Line (South Station is about a 10 minute walk)

RSVP: We must provide an attendee list to security prior to the event so make sure you register by December 10th!

Dine Around Following the meeting at Lucky’s!

South Hadley (with President-elect Devon McArdle):

Mt. Holyoke College, Williston Library 50 College St. South Hadley MA

Directions: are available at https://www.mtholyoke.edu/about/visit/directions#car

Public Parking: there is on-street parking on Church street and after 5 PM you may park in faculty/staff spaces on Church Street or Everett Road (by the Career Development Center) or even in the lot at the corner of Church and Everett.

RSVP: Please register by December 10th!

Dine Around following the meeting at Yarde House!

Virtual:

You can also choose to attend the meeting entirely online via Webex! Please register HERE (bottom center of the page)

—

Devon McArdle
President-elect/Programming Chair, SLA New England
devonannmcardle@gmail.com
Connect with me on LinkedIn!
Hello All,

SLA New England is pleased to announce the winner of our rookie Facebook contest. **Our first winning champ is Karen L Sluzenski. She won with a total of 11 likes :-). Congratulations Karen!!!**

We appreciate everyone's excitement for the contest and thank each one of you for your submissions. Hoping to see many more submissions the next time around 😊

As per the rules, the winning picture will be the cover photo for our Facebook page and also on the SLA New England website for the next two months.

Thanks all once again!

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http://newengland.sla1.org/?post-type=post&show_title=1&show_date=
Chapter Updates: RSVP to Attend Tonight’s Meeting Virtually, Chapter Officer Nominations Update and more

December 12, 2012 Categories: News & Notes

Attend SLA New England Business Meeting Virtually Tonight!

Witness change in SLA New England Chapter leadership as I pass the gavel to Devon. It’s also an opportunity to learn more about the chapter and to win a Kindle Fire. We have closed registration for attending in person. Registration remains open for attending online. We hope to “see” you there! All are welcome to attend! Register at http://bit.ly/T8Og7.

Chapter Officer Nominations

The vetting process has taken longer than expected with nominations. We have yet to identify a candidate for President Elect. If you are interested or know of anyone who would be a great President Elect and future President of this chapter, please contact Devon (devonnmcardle@gmail.com) or Nominating Chair Nancy Burt (nancy.b.burt@gmail.com). Also feel free to contact me with any questions.

So what does this mean for tonight’s meeting? Well it means Devon will become president but no election of new officers will take place tonight. On Monday, December 17th, we will present to all a slate of officers for election. Members will vote electronically for: President Elect, Secretary, and Communication Director. Voting will conclude on December 31st and new officers will be announced shortly thereafter. Now in order for this to work, we need members to send us President Elect nominations today or tomorrow at the very latest. We have so many great folks and leaders in this chapter, please consider this opportunity to lead it!

December 20th @ 2pm Webinar: So Tell Me About Yourself: Personal and Professional Branding for LIS Students and Professionals

We do not have many registrants for the Middletown, Needham, and Worcester sites. If we do not receive a critical mass by Friday then we will cancel in those areas.

Listen to the webinar (http://rockymountain.sla.org/chapter-events/rmsla-virtual-lunch-fall-2012-series-brown-dority/) at the following sites:
– Middletown Library Service Center: 786 South Main St., Middletown, CT
– Olin College of Engineering: 1000 Olin Way Needham, MA
– Worcester Public Library: 3 Salem Street Worcester, MA
– Portland Public Library: 5 Monument Square Portland, ME (includes resume review)

Registration: Please RSVP (http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/Dec202012webinar)

LinkedIn Poll: Do you currently work in the Prospect Research area?

Prospect Research is a thriving field for librarians and information professionals. We want to learn from folks their thoughts on this field as we want to provide more services in regards to this field. So please check out the SLA New England LinkedIn Group and share your opinion http://www.linkedin.com/groups/?gid=2279742.

Facebook Photo Content Winner Announced

Congratulations to Facebook Photo contest winner Karen L Sluzenski and to all contestants. View the winning photo at https://www.facebook.com/SLANewEngland or http://newengland.sla1.org/archives/7782 (click the image to view full screen).

That's it folks. This is my Final Chapter Update. Thank you all for your support. It has been a rewarding experience! See you tonight!

Khalilah
Khalilah Gambrell
SLA New England Chapter President
Website: http://newengland.sla1.org
Twitter: @slanewengland
2012 End of Year Business Meeting Recap

December 17, 2012 Categories: News & Notes

Happy Holiday’s Everyone!

Last week’s End of Year Business Meeting was held both virtually and at Fish & Richardson on Boston’s Fan Pier. The Fish & Richardson location was graciously provided by member Emily Florio and of course, Fish & Richardson P.C. Below please find a recap of the meeting.

Awards

Although awards were also announced at our Inaugural Fall Conference, we honored the winners again last week for their meaningful contributions to SLA New England.

Jean Scanlan received the **Special Recognition Award** “conferred on longstanding chapter members as they cap their careers and approach a well-deserved retirement, in recognition of what they have done or meant to the chapter.”

Betty Edwards was the recipient of the **Distinguished Service Award** “recognizing a chapter member for a sustained record of supporting chapter activities over the years.”

Paula Cohen, Emily Florio and Stefanie Maclin were awarded **Chapter Achievement Awards** which “recognize a chapter member for outstanding committee work, performance in office, or execution of event-related duties during this program year.”

Elections

Due to the fact that we have yet to identify a candidate for President-elect we did not hold elections at the business meeting. It is our hope that we will have an e-Ballot up this week presenting our full slate of 2013 positions to our members. Voting will remain open for two weeks from the date the slate of officers is presented.

If you are interested or know of anyone who would be a great President Elect and future President of this chapter, please contact Devon (devonannmcardle@gmail.com) or Nominating Chair Nancy Burt (nancy.b.burt@gmail.com).

Communications Report

Outgoing Director of Communications Gauri Govil presented on the various changes and updates to our Chapter communications throughout the year as well as the highlights of our communication survey. You can see the full presentation here.

Thank you very much to Gauri for all of her hard work and dedication and to Anne Chakraborty for her work on the Communication Survey.

Passing of the Gavel

The meeting concluded with Khalilah Gambrell passing the gavel to Devon McArdle to assume the position of President of SLA New England for 2013. Khalilah has been an invaluable asset to SLA New England and we’d like to thank her for all of her hard work over the last few years.

Devon’s remarks to the chapter focused on making **2013 a Year to Give Back**. A year for chapter leadership to continue to find ways to provide return on investment to the membership and for members to give back to the chapter. One key way in which we can all give back is the establishment of a mentorship program. You can see Devon’s slide here.

Here’s to a great 2013 everyone!
Vote for SLA New England Leaders! Ballot Open Until Jan 4th!

December 28, 2012 Categories: News & Notes

The ballot for 2013 SLA New England Chapter officers is now available: http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/2013SLANElections

We are voting for the positions of President Elect, Secretary, and Director, Communications. Bios for each candidate are include within the ballot. Because of the lateness of the ballot, voting will remain open until January 4th. Please cast your vote!

Happy Holidays,
Nominating Committee
Nancy Burt, Jamie Emery, Juliane Schneider
Hello All!

Happy Lunar New Year to those who celebrate it! If you missed the last Facebook contest, here’s your chance to submit your photograph! The winning picture will be posted on our Facebook cover page and chapter website. The rules are as follows:

- The contest is held bi-monthly (once every two months).
- The theme of the contest is New England. The photos could be anything from nature to history to people!
- The photograph submitted should be an original photograph. These pictures may be used on the website, for promotional material and included in our SmugMug Gallery.
- The winner will be chosen via a poll on our Facebook page.
- The winning picture will be displayed on our Facebook page and the SLA NE website for two months till the next winner is chosen.
- Last but not the least, the winner will be awarded a gift card of $25!

So break out those cameras and show us your view of New England! Please submit the photos to slanewengland@gmail.com by **February 28th**. Voting will open in March!

Cheers,

Shirley Zhao
Director of Communications
Greetings friends; Hope everyone is doing well, and enjoying a day or two off this week book-ended by snowpocalyptiblizzacane Nemo and President’s Day weekend. Our SLA New England board and other members met together earlier this month both at the Worcester Public Library and virtually discussing some plans for this year for programs and events to keep our skills sharp and our friends connected.

We wanted to send some ideas for the next few months through May for you to consider – some of this based on survey research led by past president Khalilah Gambrell. Every member has a role to play, and we want to ensure that SLA New England is supporting your professional development.

A reminder to all that President Devon McArdle’s signature initiative is mentoring. More about that shortly, but the great news is that there are some willing mentors out there – not surprising with this accomplished group of professionals. If you’d like to benefit from mentorship, now an essential career component, or if you’d like to mentor someone, this is the year to make this connection.

The road map ahead is flexible and we will be in touch with dates for you to put in your calendar. It will be refined and expanded. And again, we’re looking for members to add their ideas and presence. We’re also seeking locations for events – as this chapter is now regional, we need to think beyond metro Boston.

February 2013

Since it is the beginning of the year, everyone is thinking about how they can boost their career and networking opportunities this year. SLA New England has several member benefits including stipends for professional development and conference attendance – start thinking about who would be a good candidate for these. Perhaps that candidate is you!

Registration is opening for the SLA Annual Conference in San Diego, and there is a discounted “Early Bird” rate that ends April 12.

March 2013

March as we all know can be a question mark as far as the weather. But we all want to get outside by this point. We’d like to hold a dine-around or other informal after-work community building in the evening. This can be in Boston, Amherst/Springfield, North Shore, and Connecticut. How will you be participating?

Keep the photos coming and we’ll post them on the various SLA NE social media channels. (There will be an award for the best photo)

We’ll be holding a spring meeting around this time – a.k.a. the ‘Spring Fling.’ We’ll need at least two members to assist with this, and we’re looking for a venue.

April 2013

April 12 is the last day to register at the discounted, “early bird” rate for the SLA Annual Conference in San Diego.

If you are an MLIS student about to graduate, or even if you aren’t – the time is always now to refine your resume. We’d like to host a Peer Resume Review Exchange. If you’re a manager, or great at career coaching, or you’d like to boost your C.V. to make it pop – let us know.

Ever been to a Lightning Talk? Would you like to conduct one? These are a series of short(5 minute), focused, high-energy informal discussions on anything you specialize in or feel strongly about. What do you think? Licensing ebooks? The coolest tools? Emerging careers? Again – we are looking for venues – and your participation.

Also: Stipend Award Winners to be announced this month.

May 2013

The anticipated publication of the book SPECIAL LIBRARIES: A Survival Guide by Jim Matarazzo and Toby Pearlstein will be imminent by this time. They are the foremost experts on what the librarian brings to the enterprise – and this is the culmination of years of their research thus far on information professionals. Jim and Toby have offered to speak to our members about their latest findings – and what we need to do next. Details yet to be determined, but they’ll be speaking with us soon.

As this is close to the Annual Conference, we’re suggesting a Dine Around or after-work get-together for members to hear about the SLA Annual Conference which is in San Diego this year, whether you’re a first-time attendee or multi-year conference regular. If you would like to lead one in your area, or have suggestions, send them along.

SLA New England will also conduct its second annual Fall Conference this year, and we’ll need to select a date and a venue by this time. This will include presentations from the Annual Conference, and some custom programming – hopefully a special guest or two. Think about what you’d like to learn here – and how you’d like to get involved.

Again, as we build out the year, more details and dates will be added.

One of the reasons I continue to volunteer with SLA is that I’ve met so many accomplished member professionals that are generous with their knowledge, and great to work with. Please share this information as widely as possible, and I hope you’ll be involved in any of these activities. This is for you. As always, please communicate with us and each other as to what you’d like to see.

— Leigh Montgomery, President-elect
Greetings SLA New England members! What are you doing on the evening of March 12?

Join Brandy King of Knowledge Linking with other SLA New England colleagues for a Dine Around!

**Date & Time:** Tuesday, March 12 at 6:30 p.m.

**Location:** The Ginger Pad – Asian Bistro

**Location Change!**

Not Your Average Joes – Burlington
Wayside Commons, 4C Wayside Road, Burlington, Mass.
(781) 505-1303
Directions and a map are here

Dine A-rounds are casual opportunities to meet other SLA members and information professionals, find out about industry and employment trends, and enjoy one another’s company.

There is no charge for this event beyond what you eat and drink, but we would appreciate it if you could register by end of day on Friday March 8, in order to make the reservation. Walk-ins are welcome!

**Register here:** http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/MarchDinearound

**Questions?** Contact Brandy King at brandy@knowledge-linking.com

Hope to see you there!

Cheers, Leigh
2013 President-elect
SLA New England
Help Us Plan Our 2013 Fall Conference!

February 25, 2013 Categories: Conferences, News & Notes

Last year, we held a successful first ever Fall Conference and this year we want it to be even better! Please take a few minutes and fill out the survey at the link below to help us craft a better event for you!

http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/FallConfSurvey

Thanks Everyone!

Devon McArdle, President

Leigh Montgomery, President-elect
Hello all!

Happy Friday! Thank you to everyone who submitted a photo to the February Facebook Contest! Voting begins today and ends next Thursday (March 1-7). The photo with the most “likes” wins the contest and will be posted as the SLA NE Facebook page banner for the next two months.

The winning photographer will be announced next Friday, March 8. Good luck!!

http://goo.gl/KFI8F

Happy voting!
Shirley Zhao
Director of Communications
SLA NE February Facebook Winner

March 8, 2013 Categories: Awards & Recognition, News & Notes

SLA New England is pleased to announce the winner of our February Facebook contest:

Tara Breton!

Her photo (captioned “Think Spring!!!”) won with 12 likes. Congratulations, Tara!!!

We appreciate everyone’s excitement for the contest and thank each one of you for your submissions. The photo captions have all been amended to give proper credit and recognition to our photographers.

As per the rules, the winning picture will be the cover photo for our Facebook page and also on the SLA New England website for the next two months.

Start snapping your next photos for the April contest!

March 10, 2013 Categories: News & Notes

Introducing the SLA New England Resource Directory http://newengland.sla1.org/member-benefits/resource-directory. It is a benefit exclusive to SLA New England members who are solo librarians, consultants, independent information professionals or operating a small firm.

If you are interested in having your name or company on the list, please send an email to slanewengland@gmail.com that includes contact name, email address, company name with description, website, phone number, physical address, areas of expertise, and your company logo.

Let us know what you think!
What it takes to be a Good Leader? A Conversation with SLA New England Past Presidents Recap

March 11, 2013 Categories: Program Summaries, Programs

Last November we held a panel discussion called “What it takes to be a Good Leader? A Conversation with SLA New England Past Presidents.” Unfortunately, it was scheduled on a day of a particularly bad winter storm, so attendance for the event was low. The panelists, Anna Burke, Betty Edwards, and Ethel Salonen (also SLA Past President 2004 – 2005) were phenomenal. Here’s a recap of the discussion and a few of my takeaways from the meeting:

The event was held on November 7, 2012 and graciously hosted by Betty Edwards and Draper Labs. The goal of the program was to discuss what skills and experiences help make an effective leader as well as the overall role of SLA.

Path to Chapter Presidency
In the case of Ethel (1988 – 1989), she joined SLA Boston as a way to connect with fellow librarians and information professionals. Betty (1990 – 1991) and Anna (2008 – 2009) were asked to join by managers who were already SLA members. Betty, who began as Membership Chair, used this opportunity to develop activities and processes to recruit and retain members. Later Betty joined Ethel on the Logistics Committee; a committee used to help with setup of chapter programs. Anna was one of the first to hold the New Professionals chair and she was able to develop a successful committee to engage young professionals in the field.

“Why did you want to be a Chapter President?”
All three panelists stated that it was a privilege and honor to serve as chapter president. Here were the keys reasons for making the decision to be chapter president:

- Help the profession by providing professional development opportunities for members.
- Meet members and learn more about their organizations. Learn about their roles and responsibilities.
- Connect with fellow professionals in leadership positions via Leadership Summit and learn more about issues facing the profession
- Build self-confidence and professional presence
- Face your fears: allows you to come out of your shell
- Develop skills that you can utilize in your position:
  - Ability to influence, to market, to sell your services and products
  - Ability to manage and mentor others
  - Ability to handle conflict and crisis

Balancing Work + Life + SLA Commitments
All three stated that it is a commitment that requires sacrifice but it is well worth it and none of them regret it. Ethel stated, “If you are passionate then you will make it work.” If you express your commitment to family and friends they will help you. Betty recalled her daughter helping her with setting up a program and attending the End of the Year Business meeting. She was able to make lasting memories with her daughter.

Over time the commitment has changed along with technology. In the 1980’s and early 1990’s we were in a paper-based society and by the late 1990’s we were evolving to an electronic based-society thus program planning and logistics have changed. Communication has changed as folks tend to attend more virtual programs/meetings than in-person.

Key Leadership Skills Learned

- **Communicate:** Be clear with your message. Believe in your message.
- **Ask:** Folks like to be asked to help.
- **Organization:** Plan ahead and develop a plan to have a pool of leaders so you can delegate
- **Crisis Management:** Ability to think on your toes and have a backup plan
- **Delegation:** You do not have to do everything. Learn to delegate and define expectations so it is clear what you expect and what a volunteer expects from you
- **“Stuff happens!”** It’s a quote from Anna. Know that things may go wrong and learn to let it go. Move on and learn from it.

Words of Wisdom
At the end of the meeting I asked each panelist to share some final “words of wisdom”:

Anna: “Always do what is right for the chapter. It is not about you. It is about the chapter.”
Ethel: “Just do it. You will not be sorry.”
Betty: “No one will say they are sorry for getting involved with SLA.” “Definitely worth doing it. I would do it again!”

In Closing
I had the wonderful pleasure to lead this chapter (2011-2012) and really appreciate everyone who helped me. I also learned a great deal about myself and what kind of leader I am and want to be. The opportunity has helped me immensely in my professional development. The opportunities I had as President – Elect and President manifest in my current work all of the time. I utilize the skills I learned to be effective in my position. It has also helped me develop a stronger presence within the profession and also at my company. It has been a win-win situation. Yes, there is a significant time commitment but it is worth it. You are not only giving back to your peers but you are also building your career. I have not been able to think of one negative to accepting the opportunity to lead this chapter. So for anyone reading this post, three things to note,

1. You have just been asked to volunteer! So signup! http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0B4EA8A823A13-open
2. You will not regret volunteering.
3. Be clear as to what you can commit.

SPECIAL THANKS
I’d like to thank Ethel, Betty, and Anna for taking time out of their busy schedules. I also want to thank the folks who attended and helped to make it a lively
conversation. The audio of the event was recorded and will become a part of our archives as it was not just a discussion on leadership skills but about the history of SLA New England.

Authored by: Khalilah Gambrell, SLA New England Chapter Past President (2011-2012)
SLA New England Invitation to April Dewey Drink

March 14, 2013 Categories: News & Notes, Programs

SLA New England is invited to The Boston Librarians’ Social Group’s monthly Dewey Drink! Please join us as we discuss a new chapter subunit – Prospect Research. This subunit aims to build networking and professional development opportunities for members interested in Prospect Research. All are welcome to attend even if you just want to connect with fellow librarians and information professionals!

What is Dewey Drink?
“For anyone new to Dewey Drink/Boston Librarians – Dewey Drink is a monthly librarian Happy Hour at Flash’s in Boston. It’s usually a healthy mix of information workers (library/research/development/archiving/consulting), library school students, library groupies and assorted others. Please come and bring friends!”

Learn more about Boston Librarians at https://www.facebook.com/groups/BostonLibrarians

Date/Time/Location
Date: Wednesday, April 3, 2013
Time: 5:30pm
Location: Flash’s, 310 Stuart St, Boston, MA (http://www.flashcocktails.com/contact.html) Phone: 617-574-8888

Public Transportation Options: Bus 39, Orange Line Back Bay, Green Line Arlington

Cost: Only cost is for what you eat and drink

Register by April 1st: http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/DeweyDrinkApril2013

Contact: Khalilah Gambrell, gambrell9899@gmail.com
Mentoring and SLA New England

March 18, 2013 Categories: Professional Development

As many of you know, one of my goals as President of our chapter for 2013 is to implement a more formal mentoring program to carry us forward into future years. I believe that professional organizations need to be treated like living things – they must be nourished and one of the primary forms of nourishment can come from mentoring our peers such that they see the value of belonging and volunteering with SLA New England.

There are many ways in which we are already providing mentorship, such as:

- Our individual members who give their time and support to co-workers, students, interns and friends to help them grow professionally. I have personally been mentored by several people who gave me the impetus to join SLA New England and to continue to grow within the organization.
- Our scholarship programs that provide professional development funding to MLIS students, members from diverse populations and members who are between jobs or under-employed.
- Our annual Day on the Job program where we match area library students with SLA members so they can be exposed to the day-to-day aspects of the profession and hopefully form lasting relationships with their hosts.
- Our Initiatives to better serve members such as the newly piloted Resume Review program where members can connect and assist each other in crafting better resumes and cover letters.

However, I believe that we can still benefit from a more formalized program promoting one-on-one or small group mentoring. I would love to hear from anyone who would be interested in joining our initial planning committee. It would require a commitment of two or three hour-long meetings (likely virtual) over the next couple of months with perhaps some brainstorming/survey creation/documentation etc outside of those meetings. Whether you are interested in being a mentor or a mentee, please consider helping out with this effort to ensure the continued health and vitality of SLA New England.
Inviting Applications for Student Award to Attend SLA 2013 in San Diego!

March 19, 2013  Categories: Awards & Recognition, News & Notes, Stipends

SLA New England is pleased to announce a $1500 stipend available to a current MLS student in the New England area.

Reasons to attend SLA Conference:

- Networking opportunities—share your experiences and learn from other information professionals.
- Over 200 events, including educational programs, networking events, receptions, and tours.
- The latest technologies from leading industry partners, all under one roof in the INFO-EXPO Hall!
- Keynote speaker Mike Walsh, best-selling author of FUTURETAINMENT, CEO of innovation research lab Tomorrow and a leading authority on the digital future.

SLA New England Student Travel Stipend Award Criteria

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Be currently enrolled as a degree candidate at an ALA-accredited academic program in Library and Information Science in New England.
- Be a first time attendee of an SLA conference.

APPLICATION PROCESS:
Submit a document containing the following information/elements:

- Full name.
- Academic affiliation: Institution and Program.
- Date of start of program; number of semesters and courses completed as of December 2012; and anticipated date of graduation.
- Contact information, including mailing address, telephone, and email.
- Other SLA division awards, if any, for which you are applying.
- An essay of no more than 2 pages (see details below). The essay should be double-spaced.

Submissions will be judged on the basis of originality and clarity as well as on inclusion of all required information. Neatness, spelling, grammar, and completion of all required information will count in judging.

ESSAY DESCRIPTION:
Write an essay of up-to 2 pages on one of the following two topics:

1. The conference theme this year is “Connect, Collaborate and Strategize: Making the Most of Opportunities & Collaborations” What does this mean to you in the context of being an information professional?
2. Why would attending this conference be beneficial to you in your transition from student to information professional?

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATION SUBMISSION:
Friday, April 19th, 2013

APPLICATION PROCESS:
Applications should be emailed as a single file attachment in Microsoft Word to Wendy Austin, SLA New England Student Relations Committee Co-Chair, at the following email address: waustin@draper.com.

Please contact Wendy with questions about the application process.

POST AWARD:

1. The Awardee will write about his or her conference experience for posting on the SLA New England Website (http://newengland.sla1.org/).
2. The Awardee is encouraged to serve a one-year term as the Student Relations Committee Co-Chair of the SLA New England Chapter or, if graduating after the 2012 spring semester, to serve as a member of the Student Relations Committee (the latter may be accomplished virtually, if the recipient is no longer a New England resident following graduation).

NOTIFICATION AND AWARD DISTRIBUTION:

- Applicants will receive notification of award status in late April 2013.
- The winners will make their own conference and registration arrangements and will receive prompt reimbursement for travel expenses after the conference by submitting travel receipts to the SLA New England treasurer. The award may be applied to the SLA membership costs, SLA student conference registration fee, transportation, and lodging costs. Meals and incidental expenses are not covered.
Emerging Technologies Chair, Stefanie Maclin, presenter at New England Archivists conference
Saturday, March 23rd

March 21, 2013 Categories: Conferences, News & Notes

Our Emerging Technologies Chair, Stefanie Maclin, will present at this Saturday’s New England Archivists Spring conference.

**Topic:** “Writing Outside the Lines”: Partnerships in the Academic Environment

**Date/Time:** Saturday, March 23rd from 11am – 12:30pm

**Session Participants:**
- Arabeth Balasko, Graduate Student in M.A. History Archives Track, University of Massachusetts, Boston
- Leslie Fields, Head of Archives and Special Collections, Mount Holyoke College
- Stefanie Maclin, Archivist/Librarian, Bunker Hill Community College

**Brief Description:**
This session will explore creative collaborations within college and university environments. Learn how colleagues from a broad range of academic settings have partnered with others within their larger institutions to promote the archives, and to celebrate landmark institutional anniversaries. You’ll hear from student interns who participated in these collaborations, as well as about overall strategies that worked, and others that proved challenging.
Inviting Applications for the Diversity Leadership Development Scholarship!

March 23, 2013 Categories: Awards & Recognition, News & Notes, Stipends

We are now accepting applications for the SLA New England Diversity Leadership Development Scholarship. We are excited to announce this incredible opportunity to help an underrepresented individual pursue their goal of becoming the best information professional they can be! As a former award winner I was able to use this scholarship to attend the SLA conference and network and learn with some of the best information professionals in the business.

The award can be used for one of the following:

- SLA Annual Conference attendance
- Tuition reimbursement at a library science program
- Tuition reimbursement for a professional development program directly related to the information professional field

Scholarship Eligibility Rules:

- Any SLA New England Chapter member in good standing. For graduate students, there should be a commitment to continue working with SLA after completing your program.
- Of black (African American), Hispanic, Asian or Pacific Islander, American Indian, Aleutian (Alaskan) native or native Hawaiian heritage
- And not previously awarded the Minority Scholarship

Application Process
To apply, please download the application and submit to Stacie Williams at smariwilliams1979@gmail.com or Brendan Thompson at Brendan.Thompson@gmail.com by April 19th. Recipient will be notified by May.

If you have any questions, please contact Stacie or Brendan.

P.S. SLA conference is in warm San Diego this year!
SLA NE presents Maine Libraries + Special Libraries

April 2, 2013 Categories: News & Notes, Programs

Friends:

Please SAVE THE DATE of **Friday, May 10, 2013** for

Maine Libraries + Special Libraries

SLA New England presents an afternoon discussion with:

Stephen Podgajny, Director, Portland Public Library
James Ritter, Head of Reference, Maine State Library

Hosted by: Jennifer Lanouette, Corporate Research Knowledge Manger, Unum
Location: Unum, Portland, Maine

Friday, May 10, 2013
1 p.m. – 4 p.m.

This is an opportunity to hear about resources the Portland Public Library and Maine State Library have for special librarians working in the region or elsewhere. Two librarians will discuss application and stewardship of their business, economic, historical, and general information holdings. Bring your ideas and questions.

Light refreshments and time for networking will be available!

Transportation:

By train:
This event has been scheduled around the Amtrak Downeaster which departs North Station, Boston at 9:05 a.m., arrives Portland at 11:45 a.m. It will depart Portland at 7:55 p.m., arriving in Boston at 10:20 p.m.(see schedule effective April 1)
http://www.amtrakdowneaster.com/schedule/full

A cab ride from the station to Unum is $11 dollars. Shared rides should be available – please get in touch if you will need a ride.

By car:
Directions from I-95 are here:
http://www.unum.com/directions/

Attendees are encouraged to enjoy some time in downtown Portland afterward.

Questions?
Email: Jennifer Lanouette at JLanouette@unum.com
or Sonya Durney at sonya.durney@gmail.com

RSVP by the end of Thursday, May 2: http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/MaineEvent

Hope to see you there!

Leigh Montgomery
President-elect
SLA New England
Hello All!

Happy Spring!! If you missed the last Facebook contest, here’s your chance to submit your photograph! The winning picture will be posted on our Facebook cover page and chapter website. The rules are as follows:

- The contest is held bi-monthly (once every two months).
- The theme of the contest is New England. The photos could be anything from nature to history to people!
- The photograph submitted should to be an original photograph. These pictures maybe used on the website, for promotional material and included in our SmugMug Gallery.
- The winner will be chosen via a poll on our Facebook page.
- The winning picture will be displayed on our Facebook page and the SLA NE website for two months till the next winner is chosen.
- Last but not the least; the winner will be awarded an Amazon gift card of $25!

So break out those cameras and show us your view of New England! Please submit the photos to slanewengland@gmail.com by April 30th. Voting will open in May!

Cheers,
Shirley
SLA NE Underemployed Stipend goes to…

April 20, 2013 Categories: News & Notes

MATT EBERLE!

Matt is a member of the New England Chapter and the Pharmaceutical and Health Technology Division. He has been enjoying all the new opportunities to connect with fellow members from twitter chats to virtual meetings and is very much looking forward to seeing everyone in person this June. He is a member of the NE chapter employment committee and reminds you to send job announcements to slanewengland.jobs@gmail.com.

An information professional for the past twelve years, he’s worked for ten years in the pharmaceutical industry. Prior to that, he was a librarian for The Forsyth Institute, an independent oral health research center. He’s been called librarian, information scientist, information analyst, and a consultant. All the while working to connect people with the information they need to solve problems and make decisions. His first library job was working at the Vanderbilt law library transferring serials records to a new ILS before the old system finally expired. Despite obscure Russian journals and inscrutable error messages, he later got his MSLIS from Simmons College in Boston. Currently seeking new opportunities, Matt is always interested in talking search strategies or new sources. Connect with him on LinkedIn, by e-mail at matt.eberle@gmail.com, or say hello in San Diego.

Please join us in congratulating Matt!
Friends:

Please save the date of Thursday, May 30 for RESUME X – a resumé exchange!

This resumé exchange event organized by SLA@Simmons is free for students and SLA members, in collaboration with SLA New England’s Mentor Initiative.

How will you be participating?

If you’d like to be a reviewer, please contact Elizabeth Urbanczyk, SLA@Simmons President.
Email: erose.walmer@gmail.com

Look for an invitation to RSVP with more details for this event to be held at Simmons GSLIS. Please check out the flyer in the meantime!

Leigh Montgomery
President-elect
SLA New England
Save the Date! Tuesday, May 14: Dine Around in MetroWest

April 23, 2013 Categories: News & Notes, Programs

What are you doing on the evening of Tuesday, May 14?

Join SLA members and guests for a Dine Around in Northborough, Mass.!

Hosted by: Melissa Z. Swamy

Tuesday, May 14 at 6:30 pm

Romaine’s Restaurant, 299 West Main St., Northborough, Mass.
– meet other information professionals
– find out what they are working on
– learn who’s going to the SLA Annual Conference in San Diego and what’s happening there
– relax and socialize!

There is no charge for this event beyond what you eat and drink, but we would appreciate it if you could R.S.V.P. by Friday, May 10 if you plan to attend so we can make a reservation.

R.S.V.P: http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/dinearoundmetrowest

Directions to the location
Need a ride? Or can you provide one? Please let us know in the Comments section, if so.

Questions? Please let Melissa know. Her email is: melissa.swamy@yahoo.com

Hope to see you then!
CT Library Consortium – Special Libraries Roundtable and SLA-NE meeting

April 27, 2013 Categories: News & Notes, Programs

Good Afternoon,

There will be a meeting of the CT Library Consortium — Special Libraries Roundtable and SLA-NE on Tuesday, May 7th from 5:00pm to 7:00pm at the Plan B Burger Restaurant, 120 Hebron Avenue, Glastonbury, CT 06033. This is a great opportunity to catch up with old friends and colleagues to discuss the issues and concerns of CT Special Librarians. Though this meeting is CT-centric, we welcome any SLA-NE members to join us and enjoy the fine food and atmosphere of a Plan B Burger restaurant.

Registration is encouraged. Email your name and library affiliation and the program name (Special Libraries Roundtable Meeting) to clc@ctlibrarians.org

Spring has finally arrived and Summer is around the corner! Enjoy a Spring fling with your SLA colleagues.

If you need more information, please contact me.

Warmest Regards,

Ellen G. Cartledge
JETS Program Manager
Jewish Family Services of Greater Hartford
Upcoming May Events

April 30, 2013 Categories: News & Notes

We have the following upcoming events in May. We hope to see you at one (or all) of these events!

**Tuesday, May 7th @ 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm : CT Library Consortium – Special Libraries Roundtable and SLA-NE meeting @ Plan B Burger Restaurant**

Registration is encouraged. Email your name and library affiliation and the program name (Special Libraries Roundtable Meeting) to clc@ctlibrarians.org

**Friday, May 10th @ 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm @ Maine Libraries + Special Libraries @ Unum in Portland, Maine**

This is an opportunity to hear about resources the Portland Public Library and Maine State Library have for special librarians working in the region or elsewhere. Two librarians will discuss application and stewardship of their business, economic, historical, and general information holdings. Bring your ideas and questions.

The event is hosted by Jennifer Lanouette, Corporate Research Knowledge Manager, Unum.


**Presenters:**

Stephen Podgajny, Director, Portland Public Library

James Ritter, Head of Reference, Maine State Library

**Tuesday, May 14th: Dine Around in MetroWest @ Romaine's Restaurant @ 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm**

Join SLA members and guests for a Dine Around at Romaine’s Restaurant, 299 West Main St., Northborough, MA. Melissa Z. Swamy will be your host. Register at [http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/dinearoundmetrowest](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/dinearoundmetrowest)

**Tuesday, May 28th @ 7pm-8:30pm: Twitter Chat : Words of Wisdom: Preparing for the Annual Conference**

In the past we have written several posts ([http://newengland.sla1.org/archives/630](http://newengland.sla1.org/archives/630)) tied to preparing for the Annual Conference. This year, we are going to offer a twitter chat that allows folks to ask peers questions regarding the conference and for all to share knowledge about the conference. DM @slanewengland if you have a question or will attend!

**Thursday May 30th: Resume X**

This resume exchange event organized by SLA@Simmons is free for students and SLA members, in collaboration with SLA New England’s Mentor Initiative. If you’d like to be a reviewer, please contact Elizabeth Urbanczyk, SLA@Simmons President at ero.se.walmer@gmail.com  Flyer: [http://newengland.sla1.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/04/RESUMEX.jpg](http://newengland.sla1.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/04/RESUMEX.jpg)
SLA NE April FB Contest Deadline extended!

April 30, 2013 Categories: News & Notes

Hi everyone,
I’m seeing lovely warm weather here in NH! Hope you have time to go out and enjoy the spring weather!

Unfortunately, we don’t have enough entries in our April Facebook contest so we are extending the deadline till Sunday, May 5! Please submit your photo to slanewengland@gmail.com! We would love to see what you’re seeing in your part of New England!

Cheers,
Shirley
Please join the SLA@Simmons and SLA New England Chapters for:

**RESUME X!**

Thursday, May 30, 2013
5:00 – 7:30 p.m.
Simmons College
One Palace Road building
Boston, Mass.

This is geared for students or anyone who feels they would benefit from this speed-style résumé review. Participants will get immediate feedback on their materials, from professionals working in various information fields or library settings.

Social hour with refreshments will follow, as well as networking opportunities. Parking vouchers are available for the reviewers – please let Liz know if you are volunteering and need parking.

Additional details available with R.S.V.P:

R.S.V.P.
http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/ResumeX

We are grateful for the volunteers who have agreed to be résumé reviewers. If you would like to be one, please contact Liz Urbanczyk: erose.walmer@gmail.com

Thanks to all!

Elizabeth Urbanczyk
President
SLA@Simmons

Leigh Montgomery
President-elect
SLA New England
Volunteer with SLA New England!

May 10, 2013 Categories: News & Notes

Are you interested in getting to know area information professionals? Maybe you’re job-hunting and you want to give your resume a boost?

Consider volunteering with SLA New England! Check out the sign-up sheet and get an idea of the kinds of activities and time estimates for each one!

Following are some of the opportunities available!

Membership Committee Chair
- Description: Chair leads effort to inform members of benefits and recruit new members. The person will also help to implement/promote national membership efforts. Great oppy for someone who wants to develop marketing skills.
  - Time commitment: 5-8hrs per month
  - Why should you chose this position? Be a leader. Be a communicator. You will be able to define and guide the course for how we celebrate, recruit, and retain members.

Post Contributor
- Description: Share Your Knowledge. There are some members out there who are doing some great things. Write a post for the SLA New England site and share your knowledge!
  - Time commitment: Just 1 Post
  - Why should you chose this position? Build Professional Presence. Be seen as an expert and thought leader among peers.

Program Committee
- Description: Assist the President-Elect with planning programs and activities in your geographic location. Come up with programming suggestions, identify venues, and market your program to members!
  - Time commitment: 2-3hrs a month
  - Why should you chose this position? Utilize your management and marketing skills to help with programming. Use those reference interview skills to find out what kinds of programs folks want! Creativity – opportunity to think out of the box on how to develop high quality programming.

Social Media Volunteer
- Description: Find and share articles of interest on our social media outlets (Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn).
  - Time commitment: 2-3 hours per month
  - Why should you chose this position? Why should you choose this position? To share what you’re reading with other members!

Virtual Programming Committee
- Description: Work with a team to setup webinars and identify topics/presenters
  - Time commitment: 1-3hrs every 2 months
  - Why should you chose this position? Virtual Programming has become a primary communication tool. You will have the opportunity to learn how to setup and run a webinar. Thus utilizing those skills in any position.
SLA NE April/May Facebook Contest Winner

May 15, 2013 Categories: Awards & Recognition, News & Notes

SLA New England is pleased to announce the winner of our April/May Facebook contest:

Elaine Fadden!

Her photo (captioned “Goosefare Brook meets the ocean at sunset in Ocean Park, Maine”) won with 20 likes. Congratulations, Elaine!!

We appreciate everyone’s excitement for the contest and thank each one of you for your submissions. The photo captions have all been amended to give proper credit and recognition to our photographers.

As per the rules, the winning picture will be the cover photo for our Facebook page and also on the SLA New England website for the next two months.

Start snapping your next photos for the July/August contest!
SLA NE July/August Facebook Contest Winner

August 8, 2013 Categories: Awards & Recognition, News & Notes

SLA New England is pleased to announce the winner of our July/August Facebook contest:

Karen Frenchu!

Her photo (captioned “Friendship Sloop on the Boston Harbor”) won with 12 likes. Congratulations, Karen!!

We appreciate everyone’s excitement for the contest and thank each one of you for your submissions. The photo captions will be amended to give proper credit and recognition to our photographers.

As per the rules, the winning picture will become the cover photo for our Facebook page and also on the SLA New England website for the next two months. Start snapping photos for the Oct/Nov contest!
Next Dine Around: August 20th in Salem, MA!

August 9, 2013 Categories: Programs

The next dine around will be hosted by Stefanie Maclin, SLA New England Chapter Emerging Technologies Chair and takes us to Salem, MA. The following are details. We hope to see you there!

Date: Tuesday, August 20th at 6:30 pm

Location: Victoria Station, 86 Wharf Street, Pickering Wharf, Salem, MA, 01970

Website: http://www.victoriastationsalem.com/HOME.aspx


Public Transportation Options: There are several outbound Commuter Trains from North Station that you may take. Following are recommended times: 5:30, 5:40, and 5:55. The ride from Boston to Salem is less than 30 minutes on the train. Or leave early and take some time to explore Salem! The restaurant is a short-walk from the station.

Carpool Option: Need a ride? Or can you provide one? Please let us know in the Comments section.

Contact: Stefanie Maclin, srmaclin@gmail.com

What's a dine around?

A dine around is a great opportunity to:

– meet other information professionals
– find out what they are working on
– relax and socialize!

There is no charge for this event beyond what you eat and drink, but we would appreciate it if you could RSVP by Friday, August 15, if you plan to attend so we can make a reservation.
Meet a Member: Bob Kowalski

August 9, 2013 Categories: Member Profile

Note: The profile was written by Joy McNally Brandow.

How did you hear about SLA and why did you join?

After part-time positions at both public and university libraries, as well as a state archives, I started out my career at a pharmaceutical/biotechnology company, and my first boss told me about SLA and got me to join and get involved. She recommended I check out the networking events, since we were in Cambridge, as well as the annual SLA Meetings.

How and why did you become involved with SLA as a volunteer or leader?

After attending both local networking events and a number of annual meetings, I got to know a lot of people that were active in various capacities. It didn’t take long before I was helping out here and there, and eventually, by the time I attended my first Pharmaceutical Division (PHT) spring meeting, I was asked to run for treasurer. Having served two terms I can confirm that it was a great way to give back to the SLA community and I also benefited professionally.

The success of any organization is dependent on the membership. I had benefited greatly early in my career both from sessions and networking and was happy to be able to give back towards the Division where colleagues and friends were putting their own time towards making fantastic meetings and sessions available each spring and during the Annual SLA conference.

In addition to managing payments and maintaining a balanced budget, the role of Treasurer for the PHT Division provided me the opportunity to grow in a number of areas. My time management skills benefited as I managed a new workflow without letting it impact my primary work responsibilities.

Serving on a Division Board opened up networking with more people and the wider membership through interactions with many more attendees and vendors who exhibit at the meetings than I might have typically dealt with in the past. General networking and related activities such as presenting reports and attending board meetings were great additions to a conference. Additional exposure within the SLA organization was a professional benefit. It was nice to be more active.

What advice would you give younger members?

I would suggest joining organizations to meet people that are in your field, both those just starting out as well as folks who have been involved for a while. It’s good professionally, where networking is always important, as well as meeting some friends. I think with people starting out it’s a good way to see what others are doing in your area in addition to learning about different specializations. People handle things differently and you are going to see people already doing things you’re investigating.

What are you currently working on?

I’ve been working at Pfizer the past three years and the pace hasn’t slowed since day one. Our Library Team is the central department managing the ‘eContent’—databases, news, journals & books—resources for the entire company. We recently gave back the majority of our budget to R&D to work closely with them as stakeholders rather than continue just communicating potentially steady budget reductions. One of our current major projects is centered on library technology, a significant part being user authentication which will allow us to match the resources being used with departments using them more accurately than the current system in place.

About Member Profiles

With this post, we continue the Member Profile series that began in 2012. These profiles feature a cross-section of our chapter’s membership in an effort to showcase the diversity of the information profession and of special libraries. From corporate libraries to government agencies to academic libraries to library vendors and everything in between, this spot will have it all. Want to be featured? Know someone who would be a great fit? Please send a note to slanewengland@gmail.com.
Save the date: Fall Conference 9/27/13

August 13, 2013 Categories: Conferences, News & Notes, Professional Development, Programs

See this post for the latest conference information: http://newengland.sla1.org/archives/25486

The SLA New England annual Fall Conference will be in Boston at Simmons Graduate School of Library and Information Science on Friday, September 27. NOTE the date change!

WILL YOU BE THERE?

New England information professionals, library / information science students and educators will converge for this one-day seminar to hear members’ presentations from the SLA Annual Conference.

On Friday, September 27, you will

1. LEARN about in-demand skills and cross-sector interests.
2. HEAR and SHARE ideas and solutions.
3. MEET and NETWORK with professionals in the special library community around the region.

TOPICS to include:

- Authors’ keynote on their just-published book SPECIAL LIBRARIES: A Survival Guide by Jim Matarazzo and Toby Pearlstein
- Competitive Intelligence
- Taxonomy
- Change Management
- Knowledge Management
- Copyright
- Scientific Posters
- and more.

Registration with details to open shortly for SLA members, LIS students, and non-members. SCIP and NEASIST members are welcome to the member rate.

We look forward to seeing you on 9/27!

See also event listing on Facebook!
Meet a Member: Juliane Schneider, Candidate for Division Cabinet Chair-Elect

August 27, 2013 Categories: Member Profile

On September 4th voting will begin for the 2014 SLA Board of Directors. One of the chapter’s very own, Juliane Schneider, is a candidate for Division Cabinet Chair-Elect. This year’s Student Stipend Award winner, Emily Powers, interviewed her for our recent Member profile.

1. How did you become an information professional? What was your path from your education to your current job?

After undergrad, I had no idea what I wanted to do. This was pre-internet, so going to library school meant being a traditional librarian in reference or cataloging. I thought I might be interested in doing that, but I wanted to try out a bunch of other things first. So, before going to Drexel for my MS in Library Science, I worked in TV news, in the jewelry business, as a third party credit manager for Federated Dept. Stores, and as a desktop publisher for GE Aircraft Engines. I started at Drexel in 1994, and by the time I graduated in 1997, the entire face of the profession had changed due to technology. I distinctly remember the first time I did a search on Mosaic and was amazed by the images and information it returned. While at Drexel, I also got a MS in Information Systems. This helped me get my first job at Community of Science, a new company that provided databases both proprietary (a funding database) and not (Medline, AGRICOLA). I have also worked as an insurance librarian in NYC, at the NYU Medical Center library, the Mary Baker Eddy Library in Boston, at EBSCO and now I’m the Metadata Librarian at Countway Library, Harvard Med School. As far as the kind of work I’ve done, it’s spanned everything from traditional cataloging, to indexing to reference to government documents to database design to digitization projects to building ontologies and improving search/discovery through ontologies and text mining.

2. Can you describe your current job?

It changes almost daily. I’ve helped to build an autism ontology using the concepts implied in 45 diagnostic tests. I’ve helped a fruit fly lab improve their disease prediction tool by mapping concepts in the Online Mendelian Inheritance in Man to MeSH. I teamed up with the medical school IT group to create a curriculum mapping tool, where our faculty tag their courses and I map their tags to MeSH, so that we can harvest information in a consistent way come accreditation time. I was the project manager on the build of our mobile-version web site and am current project manager for our website redesign. I also frequently collaborate with one of our software engineers to build tools that facilitate automatic MeSH mapping for several different functions within website and the catalog, using ontologies and natural language processing methods. We’re also getting into some linguistics theory as we test a tool that will analyze a full text document and return accurate subject headings. I’ve worked on a project to express MARC records in linked open data format. I’m almost in a consultant-type position, which has its awesome and not-so-awesome moments (awesome – a long lineup of fascinating projects. The days where I see the project line getting a little short? Not so awesome.) But I get to call most of my own shots, and I like that kind of freedom.

3. How has your work changed in the past few years and what change do you expect in the near future?

I’ve stepped completely away from traditional cataloging and am now working with ontologies and concepts in natural language processing to improve search and discovery as a whole. I consider relationships between pieces of information that may be stored in separate places but are connected by a shared controlled vocabulary or metadata scheme. What can I do with that? How can I use it effectively? For the near future, I’m reading everything I can on semantic search, linked open data, and trying to get my head around RDF and the associated technologies. It is a completely different way of thinking about information and records, but we need to master it because that’s what the future is going to consist of.

4. What skills does your work require (technical skills, interpersonal skills, communication skills…)?

Since I’m in a role that does not come with territory, I have to have mad collaboration skills. Part of my job is attending social events and simply walking around and talking to people. What are they doing? What’s going on? I have to market myself in a way that isn’t pushy and explain what I do and how I can contribute on just about every conceivable level. Luckily, the Countway culture makes this easy – we’re all happy to work together. My Info Systems degree has been invaluable throughout my entire career. I’m no programmer (well, OK, a little), but I understand programmers and how they think, and I know what they can and cannot do. It makes their job a lot easier, and makes them willing to work with me. A skill I’ve found exceptionally valuable is the ability to admit that I don’t know something. And then I go and learn about it. That’s taken me down some unexpected and excellent paths.

5. How did you get involved with SLA New England? Can you discuss your experience in leadership roles in the chapter?

I moved here! I had been part of the Philly and NYC chapters and had great experiences. I was Employment Chair for a year, and it was fascinating to see the wide variety of information-related jobs that are available in this area.

6. What advice would you give to a new librarian?

Be flexible. When I first started library school, I thought I’d end up as a cataloger for a university in a nice college town somewhere and die at my desk as a tech services department head or some such thing. When I started looking for jobs after graduation, I was appalled at the salaries for academic catalogers. There was no way I was going to accept that! I had two masters degrees! So, I applied to the Community of Science as a funding records indexer because it paid much better and although I didn’t think I had a shot at the job (the description sounded super techie) I figured, why not? I got the job and since then every job I’ve had has been very much different from the last one. Go figure. And now I’m a sorta-techie science nerd ontology geek working at a major East Coast medical center, which I think completely confuses anyone who knew me pre-1997, especially when I break out the fruit fly puns.

7. Why are you committed to SLA?

I’m committed to SLA because I’ve formed a large group of colleagues that are also now good friends. I consider myself as part of a profession, and that means I have a responsibility to try and move it forward, get it recognition, become a mentor. SLA allows me to do all of these things.

About Member Profiles

With this post, we continue the Member Profile series that began in 2012. These profiles feature a cross-section of our chapter’s membership in an effort to showcase the diversity of the information profession and of special libraries. From corporate libraries to government agencies to academic libraries to library vendors and everything in between, this spot will have it all. Want to be featured? Know someone who would be a great fit? Please send a note to slanewengland@gmail.com.
SLA New England & SLA@Simmons Fall Conference 2013!

September 11, 2013 Categories: Conferences, News & Notes, Professional Development, Programs

SLA New England & SLA@Simmons Proudly Present:

Change as Opportunity!

Friday September 27th, 2012, 9am-4:30pm
Simmons College Graduate School of Library & Information Science
300 The Fenway, Boston, MA 02115

Click Here for Conference Registration!

AGENDA

SLA Members – $40 | Retiree/Between Jobs – $20 | Non-Members – $60 | Students – Free!

9:00-9:45am – Registration and light breakfast

10:00-10:15am – Welcome & Opening remarks from SLA & Simmons GSLIS

10:15-11:15am – SLA New England is delighted to welcome Jim Matarazzo & Toby Pearlstein, give an Authors keynote presentation on their new book:

SPECIAL LIBRARIES: A Survival Guide

Since the financial meltdown in 2008, the survival of all types of libraries is at stake—especially corporate and special libraries. To survive, library managers need to prove their organizations’ value and retool to protect their positions and move forward confidently. This book explains why special or corporate libraries must align with their parent organizations in order to survive in these difficult economic times—and describes how to foster and demonstrate this critical relationship. – Buy the Book!

11:15am-11:30pm – short break

11:30-12:15pm – Ethel Salonen and Julie Williams will present their respective popular sessions from the SLA Annual Conference in San Diego on Change Management and Social Media and finding opportunities when the world is changing around you

12:30-1:30pm – Lunch and Sciences Poster Session

2:00-3:00pm – Choose between a Competitive Intelligence session with Fred Wergeles & Chris Hote or a Taxonomy session with Jacob Ratliff

3:00-3:15pm – short break

3:15-4:15pm – Barbara Ingrassia will present an interactive session allowing dialogue and idea sharing about how we all “get the copyright message out there” to our constituents!

4:15-4:30pm – Closing Remarks

Click Here for Conference Registration!
Hosts need for “Day on the Job” program!

September 12, 2013 Categories: News & Notes, Professional Development, Programs

Once again, the SLA New England Chapter Board is pleased to announce the annual “Day on the Job” (DOTJ) program for LIS students.

This popular program enables students to meet with practicing LIS professionals and to learn more about their jobs, work environments, career history and objectives. The program has proven to be highly beneficial to students as they explore different types of work situations and possibilities and, in some cases, it has had a direct impact on a student’s career choices. We invite you to be a host to one or several of these students.

Despite its name, DOTJ does not consist of a particular day or format. The date and time can be negotiated between the student and host, although the best time for students is usually during the school semester. The format is also flexible, ranging from a day-long job shadow to an interview, or series of interviews, to a library tour or in-depth conversation. Whatever time you are able to share with a student will be appreciated.

To sign up as a host, please complete the online form here. We would appreciate receiving a response by September 20, 2013. Once we have determined which student(s) are the best match for your situation, we will email the contact information to you by the end of September.

If you have any questions, please contact: Lisa Junghahn, SLA Student Relations Committee (ljunghahn@law.harvard.edu)

We are most grateful for your participation and attention in this beneficial experience.
SLA New England Student Relations Committee
SLA NE Members: Praise Your Peers for a Job Well Done! Nominate a Chapter Member!

October 15, 2013 Categories: Awards & Recognition

Praise Your Peers for a Job Well Done! Nominate a Chapter Member by November 5th!

SLA New England invites you to submit nominations to recognize the outstanding contributions and achievements of your fellow chapter members who worked really, really hard on your behalf, both behind-the-scenes and/or front-and-center, during 2013.

SLA NE Award Nominations: Honoring Our Own Members!

As a member of SLA NE during 2013, it is likely that your role as an Information Professional was strengthened from the learning, advocacy, and networking initiatives provided by our chapter either in-person or online. Here are just a few examples where this might have occurred.

- Did you make new friends with your SLA NE colleagues at one of the dine-arounds held at various restaurants in CT, MA, ME, NH, and VT?
- Maybe you attended one of SLA NE’s chapter meetings or a joint meeting held with fellow SLA divisions or other organizations including SCIP, Connecticut Library Consortium, and Maine Libraries.
- Were you were alerted to a webinar, conference or workshop held by another organization that captured your interest, thanks to SLA NE’s listserv, calendar and multiple social media outlets?
- If you are an LIS student, did you shadow an Information Professional for a Day on the Job or receive a stipend award?
- Perhaps you perused the Division and Member Profiles on SLA NE’s website and they gave you inspiration about how to develop your own career and competencies and ideas about how to make an impact within your organization.

It is due to the efforts of individual SLA New England chapter members that make all of the above – and more – possible!

Nominations are Being Accepted for The Following Three Awards

- **Chapter Achievement Award:** Recognizing a chapter member for outstanding committee work, performance in office, or execution of event-related duties during this program year.
- **Distinguished Service Award:** Recognizing a chapter member for a sustained record of supporting chapter activities over the years. These may be for service on one or more committees, by holding various offices, or for managing different events, that when considered cumulatively, have notably furthered the life of the chapter.
- **Special Recognition Award:** Conferred on longstanding chapter members as they cap their careers and approach a well-deserved retirement, in recognition of what they have done or meant to the chapter.

How to Nominate Someone

- Any SLA NE member can nominate another member for an award.
- You may submit as many different nominations as you wish.
- Nominations need not be overly formal in tone, but should give enough detail to allow the committee members to make a reasonably fair comparison among nominees.
- **Submission Deadline:** 5 November 2013.

A Big Round of Applause!

Let us honor the SLA NE chapter members who have worked so hard this past year for they embody **SLA’s mission**.
Call for 2014 Chapter Officer Nominations: Deadline November 3, 2013

October 15, 2013 Categories: News & Notes

SLA New England Chapter is composed of an impressive group of information professionals. Kicking off today, the chapter’s Nominating Committee is accepting nominations for several members to join chapter leadership. As a Chapter Officer, you will be a member of the chapter’s Executive Board that will help shape the chapter as it prepares and hosts the 2015 SLA Annual Conference.

Seeking Nominations for the following Chapter Officer Positions:

President-Elect: This position serves as Programming Chair and in that role leads the programming efforts throughout the region for 2013. You’ll also gain in depth knowledge about the chapter mechanics before serving as Chapter President the following year (2015), and then provide guidance to board members as Past President (2016). You will also be President the same year SLA New England hosts the SLA Annual Conference in Boston. Additional details on the role are available at [http://newengland.sla1.org/president-elect](http://newengland.sla1.org/president-elect)

Treasurer (two year term): As Treasurer, s/he will manage chapter finances and work as an Executive board member on programming and annual budgets. Additional details on the role are available at [http://newengland.sla1.org/chapter-treasurer](http://newengland.sla1.org/chapter-treasurer)

Submitting a nomination: Please send an email to Past Chapter President, Khalilah Gambrell (gambrell9899@gmail.com) that includes: person’s name, email address, and a brief description of why you think s/he would be a great President-Elect or Treasurer.

Note: You may nominate yourself as well as another SLA New England chapter member.


What are the benefits of being a chapter leader? I had the wonderful pleasure to lead this chapter (2011-2012) and really appreciate everyone who helped me. I also learned a great deal about myself and what kind of leader I am and want to be. The opportunity has helped me immensely in my professional development. The opportunities I had as President – Elect and President manifest in my current work all of the time. I utilize the skills I learned to be effective in my position. It has also helped me develop a stronger presence within the profession and also at my company. It has been a win-win situation. Yes, there is a significant time commitment but it is worth it. You are not only giving back to your peers but you are also building your career. I have not been able to think of one negative to accepting the opportunity to lead this chapter.

To learn more about the benefits of being a chapter leader, please read a recap of a panel discussion with past SLA and SLA New England Presidents: [http://newengland.sla1.org/archives/13467](http://newengland.sla1.org/archives/13467)

Nominating Committee: Jamie Emery, Ellen Cartledge, and Khalilah Gambrell
Special Libraries Career Profiles: The Role of Information Professionals in Business Development and Marketing

Tuesday, October 29, 2013.

6 p.m.
Boston Public Library
Concourse Level, Room CO6

REGISTER:  http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/5SNWNQS (this event is FREE)

The New England Chapter of the Special Libraries Association presents a panel discussion as part of their Career Profile series.

This discussion will feature research professionals working with the Boston-based economic consulting firm Analysis Group, Inc.

This 3-person team of full-time researchers work within the company’s Marketing Department, providing business development, legal, marketing, and business research support.

They will be joined in the discussion by another Marketing colleague who supports the company’s direct marketing efforts through research and list building, and by a part-time legal research specialist.

The moderated conversation will focus on team members’ career paths, how they use their library skills outside the traditional library setting, and how they strive to remain relevant in an evolving market and a growing company. Ample time will be provided for a question and answer period.

Speakers: Victoria Hopcroft, John Aubrey, Rosemary Zankiw, Catherine Boothby, and Mary Liz Brenninkmeyer

Moderator: Devon McArdle, President, SLA New England

Attendees are advised to enter at 700 Boylston Street and take the stairs or elevator down one floor to the Concourse level. The conference rooms will be on the right.

Here is the BPL Floor Plan showing the room.

Here are directions to the BPL Central Library.

A social opportunity will take place afterward, for those interested.

In accordance with the Boston Public Library policy, this event is free and open to the public. However, in order to have a sense of numbers if you plan to attend, please register by Monday Oct 28th:

http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/5SNWNQS
Special Libraries Career Profiles: The Role of Information Professionals in Prospect Research

October 21, 2013 Categories: Programs

Interested in Prospect Research or not sure what it is? Interested in learning how librarians and information professionals are thriving in this field? Interested in learning best practices and tools? Join us on Tuesday, November 5th from 5:30 to 7:30pm at the University of Hartford’s Mortensen Library (West Harford, CT) to learn from a distinguished panel of information professionals working in this field. The event is free to all and refreshments will be provided.

Please register by Sunday, November 3rd at http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/nov52013prospect

Panelists:
Nancy G. Faughnan, Senior Research Analyst, Yale University Office of Development
Maureen Festa, Senior Research Analyst, MIT
Karen West-Federico, Director, Prospect Research & Analysis, University of Hartford

Program Schedule:
5:30pm – 6:00pm: Registration and Networking
6:00pm – 7:00pm: Panel Discussion
7:00pm – 7:30pm: More time for Networking

Location and Parking
The Program will take place at the Mortensen Library’s KF Room at the University of Hartford. The KF Room is located on the main level of Mortensen Library, Room L213. Visitor parking is free. The library is building #15 and best parking place is Lot D. On-campus directions: http://library.hartford.edu/about_libraries/directions.aspx and Visitor Parking: http://www.hartford.edu/visitingcampus/visitorparking.aspx details.

Driving Directions: http://www.hartford.edu/visitingcampus/getting_campus/default.aspx

Official Address: Mortensen Library, University of Hartford, 200 Bloomfield Avenue, West Hartford, CT 06117

Contact: Should you have any questions please contact Past Chapter President, Khalilah Gambrell at gambrell9899 AT gmail.com.
November 12th Webinar: Grey Matter Research: Putting Information Professionals Back in Control

October 24, 2013 Categories: Programs

“Grey matter” is information from online sources that are not a part of the traditional librarian or knowledge management lexicon. This webinar will assist in identifying methods and tools used to conduct grey matter research.

The demands of research have changed dramatically over the past 10 years. Information professionals must keep our users on a deliberate course of maintaining legitimate and useful results rather than allow Google and other information aggregators to take over. Blogs, wikis, newsletters, and more have become just as relevant as traditional research sources for up-to-date information. These resources can be referred to as “grey matter,” or the results in between peer-reviewed journals and Googling.

Please join Brendan Thompson of the Rocky Mountain Institute and Stacie Williams of the University of Kentucky for this interactive webinar. No particular skills are necessary other than an interest in steering your patrons towards great research!

Thank you to EBSCO for providing webinar capabilities! This is the first SLA New England Webinar presented by the Virtual Programming Committee. Special thanks to committee members Karen Corday and Joy McNally Brandow! If you are interested in joining the committee, please select on the Volunteer Sign Up Sheet.

Meeting information

Topic: Grey Matter Research: Putting Information Professionals Back in Control
Host: Karen Corday
Date: Tuesday, November 12, 2013
Time: 1:00 pm, Eastern Standard Time (New York, GMT-05:00)
Meeting Number: 967 705 257
Meeting Password: (This meeting does not require a password.)

Cost: Free for all SLA members, $15 for non-member

SLA New England accepts payments via PayPal

Pay Now

Webinar Registration
RSVP: https://ebsco.webex.com/ebsco/j.php?ED=263695862&UID=512422477&RT=MiMxMQ%3D%3D

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1. Go to https://ebsco.webex.com/ebsco/mc
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To update this meeting to your calendar program (for example Microsoft Outlook), click this link:
https://ebsco.webex.com/ebsco/j.php?ED=263695862&UID=512422477&ICS=MlU&LD=1&RD=2&ST=1&SHA2=AAAAAn7cmIaPCJ/Q97RA5t5XFPAtXlgLEiN3dVJ/sOLyl7-v
To check whether you have the appropriate players installed for UCF (Universal Communications Format) rich media files, go to https://ebsco.webex.com/ebsco/systemdiagnosis.php.
Cancelled November 5th Special Libraries Career Profiles: The Role of Information Professionals in Prospect Research

November 4, 2013 Categories: Programs

The November 5th event at the University of Hartford has been cancelled due to low registration. We plan to hold an in-person event in late winter/early spring 2014. This event will also have a virtual component.

We apologize for any trouble this has caused.

Regards,

Khalilah Gambrell
Past President, SLA New England Chapter
Member Profile: Devon McArdle, SLA Chapter President – Thoughts on Leadership, Presidential Term, and the Value of SLA

November 25, 2013 Categories: Member Profile, News & Notes

The following Member Profile was authored by SLA New England member, Angela Kelly.

**Question #1:** Why did you decide to become an information professional and how did you get to your current role? I actually started my career in retail management, but always loved research (researching anything and everything!) and knew I wanted to go back to school. After a semester at Simmons GSLIS West Campus (Mount Holyoke), I transferred into the city of Boston and interned at Draper Laboratories while finishing the program. With some experience under my belt, I decided to try out academic libraries before moving into my current role as an account manager EBSCO covering the New England territory.

**Question #2:** When and why did you decide to join SLA and what role has SLA played in your life/career? I joined SLA after participating in the “Day on the Job” event where I met Betty Edwards (Past Chapter President and SLA Fellow), who has continued to be my mentor throughout my professional career. After joining, I really just jumped right in! I served on the Student Relations Committee and worked the Day on the Job event – since it had such an impact on my career. Then quickly jumped to President Elect and right into the role of President for the New England Chapter of SLA.

**Question #3:** Why did you decide to run for President? What were the major issues you focused on during your term? Well, I was actually nominated and then I decided it would be worthwhile to have a President who is actively involved in Western, Mass. So it can be a little bit of a haul, but I think it is important to connect with members all over the region.

My focus has been on the **2 M’s – Membership and Mentorship.** We are working hard to assure that programs and events are relevant so that people will want to attend. On top of that, we always want to have engaged members at these events as well who can answer questions with new/potential members and make person connections. I am also working on setting up a formal mentorship program.

**Question #4:** Where do you see the industry/profession going? How is SLA going to keep pace and what is your view on the future of SLA? The profession is currently experiencing some growing pains in regards to the electronic age. We are not quite where people think we are or should be yet. SLA is working on defining themselves in this evolving industry. In the past, we have made efforts to focus on the non-traditional career paths. For example, we have recently had a lot of interest in prospect research and are planning our programs accordingly. That is one of the advantages of being a smaller, more nimble organization – we can really provide the programming that our members need.

**Question #5:** What is your opinion on the name change and what would you rename the organization? I voted to send out the survey, but personally, I am on the fence. I don’t think that the name explains what we do, but if we keep the name then we can focus our efforts on better defining the organization. That being said, changing the name would make it easier for others to understand what the organization is about at a glance and help to maintain relevance.

**Question #6:** What advice would you give to younger people in the profession/those new to the profession? How can SLA impact their professional growth and in what ways can they get the most out of the organization? My advice would be to really think about what you want to do on a daily basis – in terms of concepts and not just titles – and to talk to people working in those roles.

It is really all about personal connections. Almost every job I have had has been the result of networking through SLA. And I know so many others that would say the same thing. Part of SLA’s job is to be welcoming to new students and young professionals to support them in building their professional network.

**Question #7:** Finally, on a more personal note, could you tell us what you enjoy doing in your free time? Of course, I love to read a lot – mostly fantasy and science fiction. But I also enjoy martial arts & boxing!
Meet the Leadership and Management Division

November 25, 2013 Categories: Division Profile, News & Notes

Special Thanks to Emily Powers Souza for connecting with Leadership and Management Division on the profile!

SLA’s Leadership and Management Division believes that everyone can be a leader! Further, we believe that it is never too early in one’s career to begin learning and practicing the “soft skills” that are needed to succeed in the workplace—understanding individual work styles, building and leading teams of people, and leveraging relationships to market our skills and services. Unlike other divisions which focus on the specific industries in which information professionals work, our division exists to support and assist all SLA members with their job-related challenges.

To that end, we offer professional development webinars on topics as diverse as marketing and branding, copyright, and mobile services rollout, specialized sections for members interested in Consulting, Marketing, and Content Buying, the “Ask Ulla” column in which members can pose career-related questions and receive an answer from LMD Past-Chair and well-known consultant Ulla de Stricker, and much more. Our Annual Conference programming is centered on workplace and career issues that matter to everyone, from LIS students to mid-career professionals and beyond. Recent topics that we have explored include managing requestor expectations, transitioning to management roles, contract buying, and combating defensiveness in the workplace. The greatest asset of LMD is our community of dedicated and experienced professionals. LMD members have “been there” and are ready, willing, and able to share their insights, offer advice and counsel, or just listen. We are known as the “Division of Former SLA Presidents and Board Members,” but we know that you can learn something from everyone, and we have a goal of welcoming newer SLA members. Help us broaden the range of experience in our Division—please join us.

About the Author: Amy Affelt is the Chair of the Leadership and Management Division. In her day job, she is Director, Database Research, at Compass Lexecon, a global economic consultancy, where she finds, analyzes, and transforms information and data into knowledge deliverables for PhD economists who testify as experts in litigation. She is also an author and conference speaker on topics such as adding value to information, evaluating information integrity and quality, and marketing information services. She has a BA in history, Phi Beta Kappa, from the University of Illinois at Chicago and a master’s degree in library and information science from Dominican University.
Vote for 2014 Chapter Officers

November 25, 2013 Categories: News & Notes

Voting is open for the following 2014 Chapter Officer positions: President Elect and Treasurer. Voting ends on Tuesday, December 10th. Below is a list of the nominees.

Note: Only current SLA New England members are allowed to vote in this election.


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**PRESIDENT ELECT NOMINEE**

Stefanie Maclin currently works as a Catalog Specialist at EBSCO Information Services. Prior, she worked as a Librarian at Bunker Hill Community College. She is a trained Archivist, having earned her degree in Library Science and Archives Management from Simmons College in 2010. She has worked with the collections at such institutions as the Phillips Library at Peabody Essex Museum, Harvard University’s Judaica Department and the Photographic Resource Center at Boston University. Her interests include Digital Libraries, Emerging Technologies, art documentation, and photograph preservation.

She has previously served the SLA-NE chapter as a social media volunteer, providing links of interest for the Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn accounts, and as Emerging Technologies Chair. As the Emerging Technologies Chair, she frequently hosted Twitter chats.

Stefanie Maclin is also a published poet. She enjoys reading, knitting, crocheting, and sewing, is a history-geek, and prefers tea to coffee.

Why I want to be President? I first became involved with SLA in 2010, newly graduated from Simmons, and uncertain as to exactly what having a library degree meant, after all, it was my understanding, a librarian was a fairly traditional role. Through my involvement with SLA over the last three years, I have come to realize just how versatile our degree and skills are.

In learning just how versatile our skills are, I have learned that my own skills – creativity, organizational management, and a love for digital libraries and emerging technologies – are able to contribute to SLA. In the past two years that I have served as Emerging Technologies Chair, I have learned a great deal about the chapter, and I believe this knowledge would continue to serve me as the President-Elect, and President. I have worked closely over the last year with outgoing-President Devon McArdle, as well as incoming-President Leigh Montgomery, and have already discussed with them ideas for the coming year.

As President-Elect, I promise to continue showing my dedication and enthusiasm for this chapter, in providing a place for all our varied talents.

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**TREASURER NOMINEE**

Jacob Ratliff

Jacob Ratliff is the Archivist/Taxonomy Librarian at the National Fire Protection Association, and in charge of creating and maintaining controlled vocabularies throughout the Association. Jacob previously worked at the University of Denver and the Colorado Alliance of Research Libraries doing digital project management and metadata support after graduating with his MLIS from the University of Denver with a concentration in Knowledge Management and a specialization in Information Science and Technology.

Why do I want to be treasurer? I am interested in becoming SLA NE Treasurer because of the opportunities it would allow. I believe it would allow me to grow professionally, as well as to help SLA NE and SLA as a whole grow. Having a strong support structure for the division is important, and I believe I would contribute to that.

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Catherine Boothby currently works as Direct Marketing and CRM Coordinator at Analysis Group in Boston, where she focuses on mailing strategy, list development, and contact research for the firm’s direct marketing initiatives. Prior to joining Analysis Group, she served as Research Services Associate at Fidelity Investments, where she audited, organized, and tracked data related to the company’s research department.

Catherine holds an M.S. in Library and Information Science from Simmons College, and a B.A. in English Literature and Sociology from Wheaton College. In her spare time, she enjoys live music, trying new restaurants, and exploring Boston.

Why do I want to be treasurer? Her background in financial services and keen eye for detail would be worthwhile assets if elected Treasurer of SLA New England. If elected, she will diligently serve as a board member and manage the chapter’s finances.
Matthew Burt Receives 2013 Chapter Achievement Award!

December 11, 2013 Categories: Awards & Recognition, News & Notes

We are pleased to announce that our outgoing Treasurer Matthew Burt is the recipient of the SLA New England 2013 Chapter Achievement award. This award is given in recognition of outstanding committee work, performance in office, or execution of event-related duties during this program year. Through 2013 (and his entire tenure as treasurer) Matt has provided excellent support to the Chapter President and President Elect to guide them in being fiscally responsible, as well as navigating the chapter through changes introduced by SLA HQ. We take this opportunity to sincerely thank Matthew for all of this hard work on behalf of SLA New England – Congratulations Matt!

~ 2014 Awards Committee: Ethel Salonen, Merlyn Liberty & David Olle
Hello all!

The holiday season is already upon us! Hope you’re all excited for our December/January photo contest!

The winning picture will be posted on our Facebook page and chapter website. The rules are as follows:

- The theme is New England. The photos could be anything from nature to history to people! See below for ideas.
- The photograph submitted should be an original photograph. These pictures maybe used on the website, for promotional material and included in our SmugMug Gallery.
- The winner will be chosen via a poll on our Facebook page.
- The winning picture will be displayed on our Facebook page and the SLA NE website for at least two months until the next winner is chosen.
- Last but not the least, the winner will be awarded an Amazon gift card of $25!

Please submit the photos to slanewengland@gmail.com by January 2nd (right after the New Year begins!). Voting will begin January 3th!

Need ideas? What festivities are you having at your library? Do you have photos from our Fall SLA New England events? Halloween? Thanksgiving? The first snowfall? etc. Looking forward to seeing some great holiday/winter photos from the coming weeks!

Cheers,
Shirley
Please welcome the newest members to the Chapter’s Advisory Board for 2014: Stefanie Maclin (President-Elect) and Catherine Boothby (Treasurer). Leigh Montgomery was formally passed the gavel and became the Chapter President during the Annual Business Meeting, held virtually on December 10.

If you missed the meeting, the presentation is available here: December 2013 Annual Business Meeting. Other minutes from 2013 have also been posted on the Meeting Minutes page.

The 2014 theme is Invest in our Social Capital.

### 2014 Executive Board

**President**
Leigh Montgomery

**President-Elect**
Stefanie Maclin

**Past President**
Devon McArdle

**Treasurer**
Catherine Boothby

**Secretary**
Karen West Federico

**Director, Communications**
Shirley Zhao

**Director, Strategic Planning**
Paula Cohen
Vote for best photo in Dec/Jan’14 FB contest!

January 3, 2014 Categories: News & Notes

Wishing you a happy and healthy new year! Thank you to everyone who submitted a photo! Voting period is January 3-9!

Please “like” your favorite pictures (you can vote for more than 1)! If you are not on Facebook and would still like to cast your vote(s), please send me an email with your choice(s).

The winner will be announced Friday, January 10. Good luck to our participants!!
http://goo.gl/pMyLyX

Shirley Zhao, Director of Communications
shirley[dot]zhao[ at ]dartmouth[dot]edu
SLA NE Dec/Jan Facebook Contest Winner

January 10, 2014 Categories: Awards & Recognition, News & Notes

SLA New England is pleased to announce the winner of our December/January Facebook contest:

Natalia May!

Her photo (captioned “Breakfast”) won with 15 likes. Congratulations, Natalia!!

We appreciate everyone’s excitement for the contest and thank each one of you for your submissions. The photo captions have been amended to give proper credit and recognition to our photographers.
http://goo.gl/pMyLyX

As per the rules, the winning photo will become the cover photo for our Facebook page and also displayed on the SLA New England website for the next few months.

Start snapping photos for the March/April contest!
VALENTINE’S DAY SPEED “DATING”

January 23, 2014 Categories: News & Notes, Professional Development

WHEN: Tues February 18th, 2014 6pm to 8pm

WHERE: Thomson Reuters, 22 Thomson Place, Boston MA 02210

WHAT: Come spend a fun night out meeting other information professionals in a speed dating format where you’ll get a few minutes to talk to each person. Don’t worry – there will be time for the whole group to socialize as well! Light refreshments will be provided.

COST: $5 for SLA/SCIP/NEASIST members, $10 for non members

Register here: https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/SLANESpeedDating

Thank you to Thomson Reuters for their support and we
Look forward to seeing you there!
A few summers ago, I was in Woodstock, Vermont. I’m someone that likes to get at the origins of things, so I went to find the historic home of John Cotton Dana, founder of the Special Libraries Association. It is now the Woodstock History Center. It was a Sunday, and it was closed. Still I stood in front of it contemplating what might have gone on inside. What was the catalyst for someone to form such strong feelings about the purpose of the library and the museum for literacy and education – that would go on to influence both institutions? How did he have the foresight at that time to realize that having information resources and skills to apply them was critical for business?

It was probably a host of factors – including reading widely across disciplines, and having some good mentors. Woodstock as well is a quintessential New England village in all seasons, and you can easily be inspired there. I’m proposing a ‘virtual Woodstock’ of our own, each month.

I was reading that more companies are trying to dust off and re-invigorate a now-old form: the enewsletter. There will be a lot more of those, then. I’m hoping that this is Not a Newsletter. That’s it’s a useful monthly conversation, with some dates to keep in mind and trends on what our members are thinking about. I definitely would welcome your contribution, especially if you’d like to write one. Let me know, ideally by the 15th of each month.

Here’s a few more items for your calendar:

FIRST EVENT OF 2014: On Tuesday, February 18 there will be a Valentine’s Day Speed ‘Dating’ event for all attendees to meet other professionals in this format, just after the romantic holiday. You can register here. With many thanks to Thomson Reuters, our host for this event.

LEADERSHIP. I had the opportunity to attend the Leadership Summit of SLA for the first time earlier this month, along with some other New England Chapter members: Mary Chitty, Betty Edwards, Khalilah Gambrell, and Ethel Salonen among them. I appreciated the coaching there on leadership skills as an individual, a librarian, and in our group. Kate Arnold, SLA president, is a gem to work with and generous with her knowledge, and I got to know her as a regular volunteer with News Division activities over the years. She’s also SLA’s first non-North American president.

This is appropriate as SLA’s theme for this year is ‘Beyond Borders.’ Business and the search for talent, as we all know, is now global. The organization, currently 8000 strong, is expanding internationally. A testament to this was a statistic about one of the regional chapters that had grown the most: SLA on the Arabian Peninsula.

Summit participants had an enthusiastic response to a high-value session on Influencing Leadership with Competitive Intelligence, given by Zena Applebaum of Bennett Jones LLP. In short, it was about adding more analysis and value with your research and in your communication with colleagues. There is a recap of this session on Thursday, January 30 by the SLA Competitive Intelligence Division (which led SLA in Division growth this past year) and I strongly recommend it. You can register here.

The Illinois chapter of SLA is conducting a recap of the entire Leadership Summit via webinar this Wednesday, January 29. Two days of discussion condensed into one hour, free to all members. You can register for it here.

SLA / FINANCIAL TIMES WHITE PAPER. SLA together with the Financial Times conducted a survey last year and published a white paper on information professionals in the enterprise: The Evolving Value of Information Management. Perhaps you contributed to it and viewed it already. Maybe you even showed it to your managers. There is a useful guide for info. pros at the end: 12 Tasks for Modern Information Professionals. At the summit it was recommended that you select one each month as a priority to improve in. If you have not had a chance to read it, you can register to view it at no charge here.

VANCOUVER 2014 ANNUAL CONFERENCE. This year the SLA Annual Conference is in the beautiful city of Vancouver, aligned with the theme of ‘Beyond Borders’ for this year. This is on June 8-10, and a little less six months away. There are currently some discounted rates for registration and lodging.

Lastly, I’d like to share this article with you on being a leader in your field by helping others. Keep our social capital investment in mind, and in addition to that skill-of-the-month, add at least one act of altruism for your industry peers. What have you done so far this year?

Thank you for taking some time to consider these activities. Like SLA itself, I hope these monthly posts will be a chance to learn a lot of things in one place. This is also in the spirit of being easier on the in-box. Mine is always open, and I look forward to hearing from you. And if you’d like to write for our members, let me know by mid-month. Until then, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Leigh.

Leigh Montgomery
President
SLA New England
Elfrieda Cavallari, Former SLA New England Chapter President, passed away on Thursday, February 27, 2014

March 3, 2014 Categories: News & Notes

I noticed this obituary for Elfrieda Cavallari in Sunday’s March 2, 2014 Boston Globe. Elfrieda impacted my professional life when I met her at my very first SLA New England Chapter meeting in 1980 when I started work at Arthur D. Little, Inc. She was chair of the Hospitality Committee. I asked her if I could join the committee and she said absolutely. Later when I worked for DIALOG she was my customer when she worked at the Air Force Geophysics Laboratory at Hanscom Air Force Base. She was SLA Chapter president from 1983-1984.

Elfrieda was a remarkable person who endured an unspeakable childhood in Latvia during WWII. She escaped from a Nazi prison and made her way to Dresden, Germany where she managed to survive the Dresden bombings. She thrived here in the United States and I can only imagine that her experiences shaped her desires to excel as an information professional and to enjoy a wonderful family life. Many of us in the Chapter grew professionally because of her mentoring and commitments to customer service. She will be missed.

Ethel Salonen
SLA New England Chapter President, 1994-1995
SLA President 2004-2005
Hello all!

Spring is almost upon us! Hope you’re all excited for our March/April photo contest!

The winning picture will be posted on our Facebook page and chapter website. The rules are as follows:

- The theme is New England Food. Let’s spice things up!
- The photograph submitted should be an original photograph. These pictures maybe used on the website, for promotional material and included in our SmugMug Gallery.
- The winner will be chosen via a poll on our Facebook page.
- The winning picture will be displayed on our Facebook page and the SLA NE website for at least two months until the next winner is chosen.
- Last but not the least, the winner will be awarded an Amazon gift card of $25!

Please submit the photos to slanewengland@gmail.com by March 31st. Voting will begin April 1st!

Cheers,

Shirley
Inviting Applications for Student Scholarship to Attend SLA 2014 in Vancouver, B.C., Canada

March 14, 2014 Categories: News & Notes

SLA New England is pleased to announce a $1500 stipend available to a current MLS student in the New England area.

Reasons to attend SLA Conference:

- Networking opportunities–share your experiences and learn from other information professionals.
- Over 200 events, including educational programs, networking events, receptions, and tours.
- The latest technologies from leading industry partners, all under one roof in the INFO-EXPO Hall.
- Keynote speaker John Wilbanks, Chief Commons Officer at Sage Bionetworks and a Senior Advisor to the National Coordination Office.

SLA New England Student Travel Stipend Award Criteria

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Be currently enrolled as a degree candidate at an ALA-accredited academic program in Library and Information Science in New England.
- Be a first time attendee of an SLA conference.

APPLICATION PROCESS:

Submit a document containing the following information/elements:

- Full name.
- Academic affiliation: Institution and Program.
- Date of start of program; number of semesters and courses completed as of December 2013; and anticipated date of graduation.
- Contact information, including mailing address, telephone, and email.
- Other SLA division awards, if any, for which you are applying.
- An essay of no more than 2 pages (see details below). The essay should be double-spaced.

Submissions will be judged on the basis of originality and clarity as well as on inclusion of all required information. Neatness, spelling, grammar, and completion of all required information will count in judging.

ESSAY DESCRIPTION:

Write an essay of up to 2 pages on the following topic:

Why would attending this conference be beneficial to you in your transition from student to information professional?

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATION SUBMISSION:

Monday, April 28th, 2014

APPLICATION PROCESS:

Applications should be emailed as a single file attachment in Microsoft Word to Wendy Austin, SLA New England Student Relations Committee Chair, at the following email address: waustin@draper.com.

Please contact Wendy with questions about the application process.

POST AWARD:

The Awardee will write about his or her conference experience for posting on the SLA New England Website (http://newengland.sla1.org/).

The Awardee is encouraged to serve a one-year term as the Student Relations Committee Co-Chair of the SLA New England Chapter or, if graduating after the 2014 spring semester, to serve as a member of the Student Relations Committee (the latter may be accomplished virtually, if the recipient is no longer a New England resident following graduation).

NOTIFICATION AND AWARD DISTRIBUTION:

Applicants will receive notification of award status in early May 2014.

The winners will make their own conference and registration arrangements and will receive prompt reimbursement for travel expenses after the conference by submitting travel receipts to the SLA New England treasurer. The award may be applied to the SLA membership costs, SLA student conference registration fee, transportation, and lodging costs. Meals and incidental expenses are not covered.
Inviting Applications for Chapter Diversity Leadership Development Scholarship

March 14, 2014 Categories: News & Notes, Stipends

We are now accepting applications for the SLA New England Diversity Leadership Development Scholarship. A recipient can apply the scholarship to one of the following professional development opportunities:

- SLA Annual Meeting attendance
- Tuition reimbursement at a library science program
- Tuition reimbursement for a professional development course/program directly related to the library and information science field

Qualifications:

- Current SLA New England Chapter member in good standing
- Of Black (African American), Hispanic, Asian or Pacific Islander, American Indian, Aleutian (Alaskan) native or native Hawaiian heritage
- Not a previous recipient of this scholarship

Application Process

1. Download Application
2. Submit a 500 word essay or a brief project outline on the topic: “Celebrating Diversity: How will you encourage and celebrate diversity within the SLA New England community?” by Saturday, April 26th.

Deadline: Saturday, April 26th

Award Notification: Early May

Submission/Questions: Please submit your application and/or questions to Khalilah Gambrell (gambrell0899@gmail.com), Past President, SLA New England.
Vote for best photo in the March/April’14 FB contest

April 1, 2014 Categories: News & Notes

Thank you to everyone who submitted a photo! The theme was **Food**.

Voting period is April 1-7! Please “like” your favorite pictures (you can vote for more than 1)! The winner will be announced Tuesday, April 8. Good luck!! 😊

http://goo.gl/dwKNsv

Shirley Zhao, Director of Communications
shirley[dot]zhao[at]dartmouth[dot]edu
Sticker design contest; win a $50 Amazon gift certificate!

April 3, 2014 Categories: News & Notes

At the 2014 SLA conference in Vancouver, the New England chapter will be passing out stickers to promote the 2015 conference in Boston.

What should these stickers look like? That’s where you come in. Download entry form (PPT | PDF) to submit as many design ideas as you’d like. This contest is about finding the right concept for our stickers, so don’t worry too much about fonts and graphics; those can be perfected later.

Send your submission(s) to Brandy King at brandy@knowledge-linking.com by 9pm on April 16, 2014.

All designs will be compiled and SLA New England members will vote for their favorite at the end of April. The winning designer will receive a $50 Amazon gift card!

Sample designs:
May Dine Around at Carrie Nation Cocktail Club in Boston

April 7, 2014 Categories: Programs
SLA New England is hosting a dine around Wednesday, May 7th at Carrie Nation Cocktail Club in Boston’s Beacon Hill. Come join us after work for a casual cocktail, some friendly conversation and some serious networking.

Date: Wednesday, May 7th 2014
Time: 6:00 pm
Location: The Back Room at Carrie Nation Cocktail Club (http://www.carrienationcocktailclub.com/)
Address: 11 Beacon Street, Boston | 617.227.3100
Nearest Public Transportation Stops: Red/Green Line (Park Street), Orange Line (State Street or Downtown Crossing)
Cost: Only cost is for what you eat or drink!

Contacts:
Wendy Austin, SLA New England Chapter, Student Relations Chair, austin.wendy@gmail.com
Angela Kelly, Kelangela@gmail.com
And the winner of our March/April photo contest is…

April 9, 2014 Categories: Awards & Recognition, News & Notes

SLA New England is pleased to announce the winner of our March/April Facebook contest:

Karen Frenchu!

Her photo (captioned “Ripe for Picking at Russell Orchards”) won with 10 likes. Congratulations, Karen!!

We appreciate everyone’s excitement for the contest and thank each one of you for your submissions. The photo captions have been amended to give proper credit and recognition to our photographers.

http://goo.gl/dwKNsV

As per the rules, the winning photo will become the cover photo for our Facebook page and also displayed on the SLA New England website for the next few months.

Start snapping photos for the June/July contest! Theme to be determined (please send suggestions!).

– Shirley Zhao
Director of Communications
Vote now! Boston 2015 Sticker Design Contest

April 21, 2014 Categories: News & Notes

Dear SLA New England members,

I am excited to tell you that we had 17 entries in the sticker design contest! Please vote here for the idea you think is best to promote the 2015 SLA Annual Conference in Boston: https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/Boston2015Stickers

Voting is open until 9pm on April 30th.

Best,
Brandy
Host Chapter Coordinator for SLA 2015 in Boston

This contest is to choose which stickers we will print to hand out to attendees of the 2014 SLA Annual Conference in Vancouver to get people excited for the 2015 SLA Annual Conference in Boston.

SLA New England members have sketched the design ideas below. The winner will work with us to create the final design for production and will also win a $50 Amazon gift certificate.

**Voting is for SLA New England Members ONLY. Each SLA New England member may only vote once.**

When voting, please keep these three things in mind:

1. These are just sketches. The design idea that is ultimately chosen will be more carefully designed before sticker production.
2. The stickers will be approximately 1-2 inches in width. Choose a design you think will be well-represented in that small of a scale.
3. The stickers will be seen by all SLA members. Consider how the design will be interpreted by people from other states and nations.
Economists, employers and job-seekers are vexed by the so-called “skills gap.” The number of job openings without enough of the right applicants then stubbornly continues. What would help bridge the gap? Is it that there aren’t enough workers with these skills, or job seekers don’t identify with them? Perhaps the worker and employer just don’t have the right information channels to make the connection. Or maybe the skills gap is just a myth, as some attest.

There’s also been some debate recently as to whether “doing what you love” is responsible counsel. If a company or a job title or the list of requirements is something you’ve never pictured yourself doing or even seen before – maybe you can do maybe about half of what’s there – should you wait around for something better? Or take a risk and see if you can make it your own? Or invent something yourself?

I’m reminded of this every time I see a certain advertising campaign currently airing about retirement planning services.* The premise is: if you plan well with the right financial products, you’ll be able to retire. And then you can do what you really want to do. As one of these spots begins, Daniel Gilbert, author and psychology professor at Harvard University, asks people on the street:

“What if you could do what you love?”

People laugh and gasp and shake their heads and contemplate this as if for the first time. “I’d be a yoga teacher,” “a baker,” “an activist for causes I believe in,” “a pilot,” “an art historian…or a writer?” “a teacher,” “a pie maker.” The ad pans to a yellow wall set up in a plaza on which people are writing job titles and occupations like graffiti (‘Librarian’ is visible at about 0:25).

Gilbert is an interesting choice for this as he wrote a book a few years ago titled Stumbling On Happiness. I read this book when it came out in 2006, at a time when there was a spate of happiness-studies titles. They seem to be published in waves. Here is one thing he had to write in his book. Gilbert says psychologists are expected to write a book in which you have a unique ending to this sentence:

“Human beings are the only species that [fill in the blank].” So in his book, he wrote that people are: the only species that think about the future.

Gilbert writes that people have tended to think less abstractly and more about tangible versions of things that they can visualize. And some see themselves in the future, of course, with some big and general expectations compared to what they see around them: if I just get to this point by age xyz, or have that job, or that experience, I’ll be happy.

What if this doesn’t deliver? There is so much build up in the expectation that sometimes, it doesn’t. An article this week in the Wall Street Journal profiled several people that found that the reality of the dream job didn’t quite measure up. Conversely, Gilbert writes about how people who have gone through personal and professional challenges actually end up feeling grateful – even happy. Part of this is that people tend to recall negative things, and how events ended. In addition, that leads to learning from experience. It also builds resilience.

So back to doing what you love, or “following your bliss.” This was perennial advice by commencement speakers, famously by the late Apple executive Steve Jobs, who told the Stanford University class of 2005 to “never settle”. Now it is being given second thoughts. A recent article charges that it does a disservice to most people who don’t have the luxury of doing that, devalues work, and might even be hurtful.

And there is lot of work at all skill levels that really needs to be done.

Let’s say you want to turn your hobby into a career and start your own firm. In addition to capital, you would need quite a lot of research and information. You would have to conduct some analysis. You would have to refine your product. You would need to market and advertise and promote it and have some kind of online presence. You would have to engage in conversation with potential customers online and in person. You would need to tie it to timely events where there would be high interest and visibility, and eventually you would need to hire more help (maybe even a librarian). This is sounding a lot like…work. Can it be satisfying if it is something other than saving time or lives or working at a nonprofit?

People want to feel that their work is valued. That they are contributing to something of lasting value and purpose. Not necessarily constructing the Eighth Wonder of the world or inventing a paradigm-shifting device or becoming a guru whose knowledge is packaged in Massive Open Online Courses, beamed to thousands of students. But on a regular basis solving a problem or introducing an innovation that is then spread throughout the department or network. Or just feeling like you showed someone an application or way of doing things that made their work easier.

It has been said that knowledge workers learn the most when they are teaching others. Working with information and in libraries has many opportunities for that. And these are skills that any workplace would be glad to have. Most of us aren’t working in one of those “Dream Jobs” that were discussed in a session at last year’s SLA Conference, although it is great to know that many of these industries value librarians. But you can support the expertise of those around you, and maybe even explore disciplines and industries and cultures that you didn’t know about, all the while working on things that are common to many information center responsibilities.

So when the opportunity to apply those skills with your passion is in front of you, you’ll be ready.

And just maybe you’ll find out: you were doing what you love, all along.

Our Woodstock is an occasional online post for SLA New England members on careers in information or topics of timely interest. Your contributions are welcome. If you’d like to write one, please get in touch.

*This is one version of the advertisement, posted for informational purposes only.
Sticker Winner!

May 12, 2014 Categories: Awards & Recognition, News & Notes

Karen Sluzenski, reference librarian at Dartmouth, is the winner of the SLA New England sticker design contest to promote the 2015 conference in Boston! Her design mimics Boston’s City Limits signs and will be an eye-catching way to welcome SLA members to our area.

We are grateful to the 8 members who submitted 17 designs for consideration, and to the 61 members who voted in the contest.

420 stickers are being printed to hand out in Vancouver and beyond!

Click image to the right for full effect.

Updated 5/15/14: This design has been altered to include the SLA logo in place of the MA state seal.
Join us at the SLA 2015 Boston Booth in Vancouver

May 26, 2014 Categories: News & Notes

If you’re planning to be at the Annual Conference, please consider signing up for a shift (or two if you can swing it) at the Boston Booth! We will be passing out information and raffling several items, including a t-shirt featuring the winning design (click on photo for full effect).

Sign up here and mark your calendars. If you have any questions, please email Brandy King.

See you in Vancouver!
SLA New England Proud to Announce Tim Silva as 2014 Student Stipend Award Recipient!

June 2, 2014 Categories: Awards & Recognition, News & Notes, Stipends

SLA-New England is proud to announce Tim Silva as the recipient of Student Stipend Award to attend SLA in Vancouver in June 2014.

Tim Silva is an MLIS candidate at the Simmons College Graduate School of Library and Information Science with interests in library management and the evaluation of library services.

Tim holds a BA in Anthropology from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst and has stayed in motels throughout the eastern U. S. while excavating sites as a professional archeologist. More recently, Tim managed public conservation properties and a conservation easement program for a statewide non-profit land trust in Massachusetts. In 2011, Tim completed a 10-month service term as an AmeriCorps volunteer where he used his expertise to establish a conservation stewardship program for a small land trust in western Massachusetts.

Tim is a Reference Assistant at the Leominster Public Library in Leominster, MA, where he lives with his wife, a teenage nephew and two cats. He expects to receive his MLIS in December 2014 and looks forward to having more time for long bicycle rides and backyard landscaping projects next spring.
Schedule of SLA NE Members Presenting in Vancouver!

June 6, 2014 Categories: Conferences, News & Notes

While finalizing your schedule for SLA 2014, don’t forget to check out the sessions of your fellow SLA New England members. Below is a schedule we’ve pulled together. (Thank you to everyone that submitted your info to the survey!)

Sunday, June 8
11:45am-1:15pm
**Taxonomies: Everything you need to know to start a taxonomy from scratch**

In this introductory session that is part theory and part practice, the focus will be on how to start creating a taxonomy. Following a presentation of taxonomy basics and techniques to get started and some case examples by the author of The Accidental Taxonomist, there will be an interactive component of working together to build a small taxonomy with audience input.

**Program Take-Aways:**
- Learn the basics of what a taxonomy is.
- Get some actual experience choosing taxonomy terms and along the way, learn common pitfalls.

**SPEAKING:**
Heather Hedden (@hhedden), Senior Vocabulary Editor, Cengage Learning
Jacob Ratliff (@Gameronomist), Archivist/Taxonomy Librarian, National Fire Protection Association

1:30pm-3:00pm
**PAM Mathematics roundtable**

Small group discussion of current topics and concerns related to mathematics information, literature, publishing, and libraries. Anticipated topics range from altmetrics and e-books in mathematics to new acquisition models and faculty outreach. (Panel discussion)

**SPEAKING:**
Shirley Zhao (@zhao_shirley), Physical Sciences Librarian, Dartmouth College – Topic: Teaching and Supporting LaTeX

2:00pm-2:15pm
**QUICK TAKE – Top 5 Tips for Developing Powerful LinkedIn Profiles**

This session will focus on how to develop positive, persuasive LinkedIn profiles with a concentration on proven recognized best practices.

**Program Take-Aways:**
- Participants will leave this session with a practical list of steps to take to maximize the visibility of their LinkedIn profile.

**SPEAKING:**
Nathan Rosen (@nathanrosen), Library Research Manager, Dechert LLP

Monday, June 9
8:00am-9:30am
**The Bionic InfoPro – Machine Augmentation of Competitive Intelligence**

Competitive intelligence work is an intensely analytical process. It relies on human knowledge and expertise. A panel of analysts will discuss how an analyst’s knowledge might be profiled as a taxonomy or an ontology for machine assisted analysis.

**Program Take-Aways:**
- How to add automation to your competitive intelligence process.
- How taxonomies may improve your competitive intelligence work.

**MODERATING:**
Heather Hedden (@hhedden), Senior Vocabulary Editor, Cengage Learning
8:00am-9:30am

**Corporate Information Centers section meeting**

Annual meeting of the Corporate Information Centers section of the Business & Finance Division. No Longer the ‘Desk Set’ – An examination of corporate information centers today and their future (Panel discussion)

**MODERATING:**

John Aubrey, Senior Business Development Specialist, Analysis Group, Inc.

8:00am-9:30am

**College & University Business Libraries section meeting**

Annual business and networking meeting of the College & University Business Libraries Section. New members are welcome. The meeting will include two formal presentations: “Making Entrepreneurship Local for Foreign Students at US Colleges” by Jack Cahill and “A Global Reach: Supporting International Research, Academics & Working Abroad” by Holly Inglis & Stephanie Perpick. Topical roundtable discussions will follow the presentations.

**Program Take-Aways**

- Participants will gain a deeper understanding of how universities are supporting international business students and researchers.
- Participants will also be able to connect with colleagues and learn of best practices in a range of areas through the roundtable discussions.

**SPEAKING:**

John Cahill, Babson College

10:00am-11:30am

**Engaging Users with Technology**

How do we decide what products we will purchase and invest our time in? Are these decisions driven by the functionality of the technology, or how the interaction enhances our experience? The speakers will explore models to measure user engagement along with teaching and learning applications, such as gaming.

**Program Take-Aways**

- Participants will gain insights into the phenomenon of engagement and understand a conceptual model to measure user engagement as a process.
- Participants will learn about a game developed to teach STEM students ethical research practice.
- Participants will gain insight into the structure and creation of an educational web site reflecting museum holdings and indigenous knowledge content.

**MODERATING:**

Andy Shimp (@andyshimp), Engineering & Applied Sciences Librarian, Yale University

10:00am-11:30am

**SLA Hot Topic – Adapt, Act and Thrive: Ensuring the sustainable library**

Serious challenges threaten special libraries’ sustainability and we want to show you how your peers Adapt, Act and Thrive.

Join us and a panel of visionary information professionals to learn how they:

- Ensure and leverage info-ubiquity. Universal access to information assets requires global coverage and 24/7/365 self-service, from any device, including mobile.
- Embed themselves within their organizations. Library technology must integrate with existing systems, leverage existing information assets and work seamlessly with current IT infrastructure.
- Engage end users. Users expect to influence and interact with content via social tools.
- Manage challenging vendor relationships. Get control of third party content providers who are directly approaching end users and bypassing the library.
- Control costs. Budgets are scrutinized every year; purchased content must be utilized and costs must be recovered.
- Demonstrate value. Tracking, measurement and monitoring of services, satisfaction and performance are critical, together with communication of results.

Special librarians achieve sustainability by emphasizing access, efficiency, integration and relevance. Our panel discussion will include several of your peers who make their departments and functions more relevant – now, and into the future. Survive: adapt, act and thrive!
Program Take-Aways

- Participants will hear about powerful ways to adopt survival tactics in order to thrive and extend their reach.

SPEAKING:
Joan Cunningham, Regional Librarian, SGH

5:30pm-7:00pm
All-Sciences Poster Session

Posters contributed by members of the science-oriented divisions of SLA are presented by their authors. Come learn from the best and enjoy hors d’oeuvres to match. (Panel discussion)

SPEAKING:
Dorothy Barr, Public Services Librarian, Ernst Mayr Library, Harvard University
Shirley Zhao (@zhao_shirley), Physical Sciences Librarian, Dartmouth College – Topic: Supporting Science and Scholarly Communication

Tuesday, June 10

9:45am-10:45am
SLA Hot Topic – Industry Research in Action: Enhancing the value of Information Services

As a continuation of the research conducted by the Financial Times and SLA last year (http://ftcorporate.ft.com/sla/), this interactive panel discussion will showcase success stories of how information professionals have enhanced their influence and value within their organizations.

Learn how your peers are using the report findings and their own expertise to improve communication, better align information services with critical business needs, and successfully deliver decision-ready information in a variety of industries. Panelists will share their successes and challenges along with a host of useful tips to excel.

This is a must-attend event for anybody interested in improving the perceived value of their information services, and understanding how the information profession is evolving along with the global economy.

SPEAKING:
Tracy Maleeff (@LibrarySherpa), Library Resources Manager, Duane Morris LLP

9:45am-10:45am
Recruiting a Champion: Getting C-Suite Support for Your KM Project

It is often difficult to obtain organizational support to begin knowledge management projects. Most are expensive, time-consuming, and it may be years before the organization begins to see any results. Hear from experienced knowledge managers about how to recruit an organizational champion to support a KM project and convince others about the value of the investment to the organization.

SPEAKING:
Ethel Salonen, Department Head, The MITRE Corporation

2:00pm-3:30pm
PAM Physics Roundtable

An in-depth examination of several current topics and concerns related to physics information, publishing, researchers, laboratories, and libraries. The session will be a combination of short educational presentations and small- and large-group discussions on these topics.

Program Take-Aways

- Participants will learn about trends concerning physics information and librarianship.
- Participants will engage with colleagues about addressing these trends.

SPEAKING:
Shirley Zhao (@zhao_shirley), Physical Sciences Librarian, Dartmouth College – Topic: Altmetrics
5:00pm-6:00pm

Closing General Session

Don’t leave Vancouver without attending SLA’s fast-paced TED Talk-style Closing General Session. Four speakers who are experts in their fields, a bit edgy and most definitely forward thinking will address and engage attendees on our conference theme, Beyond Borders. Speakers include: Sarah Glassmeyer, Director of Content Development for CALI, the Center for Computer-Assisted Legal Instruction; Brandy King, Head of Information Services, The Arnold P Gold Foundation; Josh Maleeff, Head Coach and Technical Trainer, Tech Ed Coach; Heather Piwowar, Cofounder of ImpactStory. Ready to explore your own borders?

SPEAKING:

Brandy King (@KnowldgeLinking), Knowledge Linking/Arnold P. Gold Foundation – Topic: Borders between personal and professional life


SPECIAL THANKS To Chapter Emerging Technologies Chair, Joy McNally Brandow (@rallymcnally) for putting this impressive list together.
SLA NE June/July photo contest (deadline 7/6/14)

June 18, 2014 Categories: News & Notes

It was wonderful to see so many chapter members at SLA this year! Check out the photos: http://goo.gl/oZ5uK0

Now I hope you’re all excited for our June/July photo contest! The winning picture will be posted on our Facebook page and chapter website. The rules are as follows:

- The theme is Celebrations! This is a wonderful time of year to capture those life moments, big or small.
- The photograph submitted should be an original photograph. These pictures maybe used on the website, for promotional material and included in our SmugMug Gallery.
- The winner will be chosen via a poll on our Facebook page.
- The winning picture will be displayed on our Facebook page and the SLA NE website for at least two months until the next winner is chosen.
- Last but not the least, the winner will be awarded a gift card of $25!

Please submit the photos to slanewengland@gmail.com by July 6th.

Voting will begin Monday, July 7th!

Cheers,

Shirley Zhao
Director of Communications
June/July Photo Contest Winner

July 16, 2014 Categories: Awards & Recognition

SLA New England is pleased to announce the winner of our June/July Facebook contest:

Tara Breton!

Her photo won with 9 likes. The theme was celebrations. Congratulations, Tara!!

We appreciate everyone’s excitement for the contest and thank each one of you for your submissions. The photo captions have been amended to give proper credit and recognition to our photographers.

http://goo.gl/kcPp4W

As per the rules, the winning photo will become the cover photo for our Facebook page and also displayed on the SLA New England website for the next few months.

Start snapping photos for the next contest! Theme to be determined (please send suggestions!).

– Shirley Zhao
Director of Communications
Student Stipend Winner Tim Silva’s Thoughts on SLA Annual in Vancouver

July 21, 2014 Categories: Awards & Recognition, News & Notes, Professional Development, Stipends

It’s hard to believe that a month has passed since I attended SLA 2014 in Vancouver. I had a great time and learned a few things from my first experience at the Conference…

If at all possible, get there early!

While I understand that schedules and finances don’t always allow for the best travel itineraries, arriving in town early Sunday morning and then showing up to the Conference a few hours later is, in hindsight, not something I’d recommend. I missed the Saturday session for first-time attendees (an opportunity to meet & connect with other newbies like me), and attending one of the pre-conference seminars would have helped make up for missing most of Sunday’s sessions – more on that below.

Pace yourself

If you’ve been to any sort of large conference before, you know that there’s never enough time to see or do everything that interests you. Also, you’ll soon recognize the feeling of mental overstimulation that comes with the hours and days of sessions, networking, socializing and so on. I tried to make sure that I found a quiet corner in the Convention Centre every so often to think about what I’d just learned or experienced and with whom I’d spoken. The lovely surroundings of Vancouver right outside the Convention Centre made taking a head-clearing break outdoors a pleasant experience, too!

Take notes about everything & everybody

A great tip from Tom Rink’s 10-minute Quick Take session on networking: Write a few notes about the person you just me on the business card they gave you. Don’t count on remembering details because, chances are, you won’t.

The notes I took in the sessions I attended have proven useful in the aftermath of the Conference, too, though social media has made it easier to get the highlights and/or handouts from sessions I missed. I set up a Twitter stream with the Conference hashtag and kept up with goings on even when I wasn’t at the Conference. Even now, more than a month afterward, attendees and presenters are still tweeting links to useful notes and session summaries.

Give and get in return
Come see the Magna Carta at MFA (Boston)

July 29, 2014 Categories: Programs

On Saturday, August 23, 2014, we, and co-sponsored with the New England Archivists, will be visiting the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston to view the Magna Carta.

https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/mfamagnacarta

This document was originally archived in 1215, the copy currently on display at the MFA, Boston, is one of only four copies still in existence.

This piece of paper has become the foundation of democracy, modern law, human rights, and influence the constitutions of many nations.

We will meet at the Huntington Avenue entrance of the museum for a 2pm start time. The museum closes at 4:45pm on Saturdays, so hopefully, one would have time to see other exhibits in the museum should you wish.

We will also be meeting for a post-museum visit social at 5pm. Location still TBD. Come see the Magna Carta with us! Come socialize with us post-visit!

Please note: SLA-NE and New England Archivists have both generously agreed to contribute $100 towards the purchase of appetizers for this event. All other foods and drinks will be pay-on-your-own.

We should be eligible for the group rate ($20/person, compared to regular admission $25/person). Please let us know if you will be paying another way (membership, discounted library pass, etc…) as those paying the group rate will need to enter through the special group entrance.

EVERYONE is responsible for their own admission to the museum.

Please also be sure to provide us a name and email.

We are asking for you to register: https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/mfamagnacarta

Please be sure to register NO LATER THAN Tuesday, August 19, 2014.

More information to follow regarding the post-Museum social. Should you have any questions, please contact me at srmaclin@gmail.com.

Thank you! We hope to see you there!
SLA NE October photo contest (deadline 10/22/14)

October 1, 2014 Categories: News & Notes

It’s a lovely fall morning here in NH! The trees are ablaze with color! What does your part of New England look like? Send us your photos for the October photo contest!

The winning picture will be posted on our Facebook page and chapter website! The rules are as follows:

- The theme is **Fall in New England**!
- The photograph submitted should be an original photograph. These pictures maybe used on the website, for promotional material and included in our SmugMug Gallery.
- The winner will be chosen via a poll on our Facebook page.
- The winning picture will be displayed on our Facebook page and the SLA NE website for at least two months until the next winner is chosen.
- **Last but not the least, the winner will be awarded a gift card of $25!**

Please submit the photos to slanewengland@gmail.com by October 22.
Voting will begin Thursday, October 23!

_________
Shirley Zhao
Director of Communications
Praise Your Peers for a Job Well Done! Nominate a Chapter Member!

October 7, 2014 Categories: Awards & Recognition

Praise Your Peers for a Job Well Done! Nominate a Chapter Member by October 22nd!

SLA New England invites you to submit nominations to recognize the outstanding contributions and achievements of your fellow chapter members who worked really, really hard on your behalf, both behind-the-scenes and/or front-and-center, during 2014.

SLA NE Award Nominations: Honoring Our Own Members!

As a member of SLA NE during 2014, it is likely that your role as an Information Professional was strengthened from the learning, advocacy, and networking initiatives provided by our chapter either in-person or online. Here are just a few examples where this might have occurred.

- Did you make new friends with your SLA NE colleagues at one of the dine-arounds held at various restaurants in CT, MA, ME, NH, and VT?
- Maybe you attended one of SLA NE’s chapter meetings or a joint meeting held with fellow SLA divisions or other organizations including SCIP, Connecticut Library Consortium, and Maine Libraries.
- Were you were alerted to a webinar, conference or workshop held by another organization that captured your interest, thanks to SLA NE’s listserv, calendar and multiple social media outlets?
- If you are an LIS student, did you shadow an Information Professional for a Day on the Job or receive a stipend award?
- Perhaps you perused the Division and Member Profiles on SLA NE’s website and they gave you inspiration about how to develop your own career and competencies and ideas about how to make an impact within your organization.

It is due to the efforts of individual SLA New England chapter members that make all of the above – and more – possible!

Nominations are Being Accepted for The Following Three Awards

- **Chapter Achievement Award**: Recognizing a chapter member for outstanding committee work, performance in office, or execution of event-related duties during this program year.
- **Distinguished Service Award**: Recognizing a chapter member for a sustained record of supporting chapter activities over the years. These may be for service on one or more committees, by holding various offices, or for managing different events, that when considered cumulatively, have notably furthered the life of the chapter.
- **Special Recognition Award**: Conferred on longstanding chapter members as they cap their careers and approach a well-deserved retirement, in recognition of what they have done or meant to the chapter.

How to Nominate Someone

- Any SLA NE member can nominate another member for an award.
- You may submit as many different nominations as you wish.
- Nominations need not be overly formal in tone, but should give enough detail to allow the committee members to make a reasonably fair comparison among nominees.
- **Submission Deadline**: 22 October 2014.

A Big Round of Applause!

Let us honor the SLA NE chapter members who have worked so hard this past year for they embody SLA’s mission.
Vote for Your SLA NE 2015 Officers

October 21, 2014 Categories: News & Notes

Good Morning SLA New England!

The Nominating Committee is pleased to announce the following slate of potential new officers for 2015:

President Elect – Elizabeth Urbanczyk
Secretary – Mary Purdey
Director of Communications – Joy McNally Brandow

Please take a few moments to read about each candidate and cast your ballot here.

Voting will remain open for approximately two weeks and close at midnight on November 3rd!

Thank you for taking the time to vote for your chapter leaders and here’s to a successful 2015!

Sincerely,
The 2015 Nominating Committee
Devon McArdle, SLA New England Past President
Barbara Williams
Marie Nardi
Sarah Curran
SLA Conference Recap Summary

October 30, 2014 Categories: Program Summaries, Programs

SLA CONFERENCE RECAP

Tuesday, October 21, 2014
Draper Labs (One Hampshire St. Cambridge, MA. 02139)

20 plus participants gathered at Draper Labs for what has become an annual SLA New England chapter “conference recap” event. The evening featured three presentations delivered by chapter members at this year’s SLA Annual conference held in Vancouver, BC. This evening’s speakers included

- Jack Cahill, Manager, Research and Instruction, The Stephen D. Cutler Center for Investments and Finance, Babson College
- Heather Hedden, Senior Vocabulary editor, Cengage Learning
- and a virtual presentation by Brandy King, Head of Information Services for the Arnold P. Gold Foundation, and Principal of the independent information consultancy, Knowledge Linking.

Special thanks for a most successful event go to Betty Edwards and Draper Labs for generously hosting the program, and the event sponsor, Springer.com, represented by Kristen Wallerius, Global Licensing Manager, Corporate Tech Markets at Springer Science+Business Media. President Elect, Stefanie Maclin-Hurd is credited with organizing this informative and enjoyable evening.

The first presenter – Jack Cahill, Manager, Research and Instruction, The Stephen D. Cutler Center for Investments and Finance, Babson College.

Jack’s presentation addressed a dilemma encountered by Babson graduate business program whereby the majority of graduate students were foreign and their numbers are growing yet the focus of their studies at Babson is features of the American capital system, promotion, advertising, and the like, which provides little access of how to relate this information to their home countries. Additionally, the US experience in venture creation and funding doesn’t relate to native countries. Without a ‘green card’, the students typically work in the US for a year before returning to their home countries. Information and data on funding sources, and deal histories in emerging country markets is immature, untracked and generally, unavailable. Business operations are unique and not supported with a strong regulatory structure as in the US.

The gap Babson needed to bridge was to identify & aggregate business & entrepreneurship resources, tools & methods for enabling Eship in native countries. A process Jack calls “Effectual Reasoning” How do they relate information from their US program to their home businesses, when in reality, there is little that is transferable to the native business environment, culture and regulation?

The solution is in sources. Jack’s observation is that except for a couple of exceptions (PWC & E & Y guides, IFC “doing business in” series, Lex Mundi and HLB International) traditional “doing business in” guides did not work well. Recommended Sources: EMIS in English & local languages; international databases/directories in local languages; Google Translate; colleagues at foreign colleges, government development agencies offer an opportunity to reach out and make new connections; community of entrepreneurs in the locale and the institution’s own community of business students.

The best source for assessment of Eship activity Babson developed, Babson Global EShip Monitor – GEM, (www.gemconsortium.org) Jack’s message is that EShip, as an academic discipline, must push beyond the walls of academia to assist with the expansion of research resources for non-US market identification, funding sources and the like. This is an opportunity to create their own small international venture incubator for ventures from emerging market nations.

The second speaker was Heather Hedden, Senior Vocabulary editor, Cengage Learning, who in a short time packed in Everything You Need To Know To Start A Taxonomy From Scratch

Heather’s Concise, practical approach covered the key steps in implementing a taxonomy initiative. We came away with a clear idea of what is a taxonomy, its value, uses, and purpose, different types & which to select for specific situations; the steps that are a must and red flags to be alert for. Beginning with Initial considerations – pre-planning considerations, deciding on the scope, and determining the taxonomy type. Heather stressed that the unique features of each enterprise informs the unique content collection and approach discouraging “off-the –shelf” taxonomy solutions. Thus, the focus on “Build from scratch” appropriate for the specific situation.

The presentation covered the key decisions and tasks beginning with the scope, breadth, and depth; level of complexity; who will build it (a consultant, a temporary staff person, existing staff librarian, subject matter expert); suitable types- hierarchical, faceted, thesaurus; sources of terms and relationships for organizing the taxonomy; tools to prepare a draft (Excel), and finally, user testing and governance. View the complete presentation on Heather’s website

Questions/Comments from attendees addressed the format (Excel template?) used for updates and reviews, and how to best evaluate the effectiveness of the structure through usage; experience with buying or licensing a taxonomy from a vendor; thoughts on using card-sorting when building out the taxonomy. Leigh noted that while there is much dithering about taxonomies, consumer facing firms get it. Good examples are Best Buy, Lands’ End, and Target. A few attendees commented on benefiting from Taxonomy webinars and continuing education classes.

Navigating Borders, so you can have it all? Lastly, we had a virtual presentation from Brandy King, Head of Information Services for the Arnold P. Gold Foundation, and Principal of the independent information consultancy, Knowledge Linking

Informational professionals have commitments to a ‘career’ (vs. a job), along with family, community, and personal responsibilities that can often leave us stretched too thin, feeling that we’re not fulfilling any of our roles adequately. As a mother of two small children, Brandy is regularly challenged by responsibilities and demands which can blur boundaries. This presentation offered a strategy to improve work/life balance with techniques for organizing life’s priorities and commitments into priority ‘categories’ or buckets that reflect key areas of our demands and responsibilities. For Brandy the buckets are: Family, Career, Volunteer. While trying to “Have it all” many people struggle with boundaries. There is no ideal template as the approach that works best is a personal
decision. Some will be rigid about boundaries, while others blur boundaries to be more flexible. Brandy emphasized the importance of successfully negotiating the borders between categories, and the need to focus on each.

Ending Comments

Leigh announced the SLA New England slate of candidates for the upcoming year: Director of Communications – Joy McNally-Brandow; Secretary – Mary Purdey, and President elect – Elizabeth Urbanczyk.

Leigh thanked Draper Labs & Betty Edwards for their generosity in hosting the event along with the sponsor, Springer. She noted particular appreciation for our member colleagues for bringing their knowledge & expertise to Vancouver so we can benefit from it tonight.

Stefanie announced the Annual Business Meeting will be held November 4 (election day) at EBSCO Information Services, 10 Estes Street, Ipswich, MA 01938. A virtual component will also be offered.
October Photo Contest Winner

November 2, 2014 Categories: Awards & Recognition

SLA New England is pleased to announce the winner of our October Facebook contest:

      Jamie Rose Bukowski!

Her photo won with 12 likes. The theme was Fall in New England. Congratulations, Jamie!!

We appreciate everyone’s excitement for the contest and thank each one of you for your submissions. The photo captions have been amended to give proper credit and recognition to our photographers. http://goo.gl/ZUHIE7

As per the rules, the winning photo will become the cover photo for our Facebook page and also displayed on the SLA New England website for the next few months.

– Shirley Zhao
Director of Communications

http://newengland.sla1.org/?post-type=post&show_title=1&show_date=...
2014 SLA New England Chapter Award Winners Announced

November 5, 2014 Categories: Awards & Recognition

The SLA New England Awards Committee is pleased to present the 2014 award winners to the chapter!

Chapter Achievement Award: Shirley Zhao

As the chapter’s Communications Director, she was the driving force in keeping the chapter communication streams open and interesting. Shirley diligently ran the Facebook photo contests, supported social media exposure of the chapter events and info and was all around an outstanding board member.

Special Recognition Award: Dee Magnoni

Although she is no longer in the area, she remains a member and her commitment to the chapter throughout the years has been valued. We also want to recognize her for the tremendous job she did as the 2014 Annual Conference Advisory Council Chair. Vancouver was a wonderful conference and we want to commend her for a job well done!

Please join us in congratulating our award winners!

2014 Awards Committee: Khalilah Gambrell, Ethel Salonen, and Laurie Allen
SLA New England Dine-Around Rescheduled for February 5 at Charlie’s Kitchen in Harvard Square

January 15, 2015 Categories: Conferences, News & Notes, Programs Tags: SLA NE Events

With the blizzard, our dine-around has been rescheduled for Thursday, February 5. Please register by Tuesday, February 3 if you are planning to join us for a great night of networking!

Brandy King is excited to be hosting an SLA New England Dine-Around in the upstairs lounge at Charlie’s Kitchen in Harvard Square.

Please join us for a drink or for dinner to network and learn more about what the 2015 SLA conference will bring to our city!

Date: February 5

Time: 6pm

Location: Charlie’s Kitchen (Harvard Square T-stop)

10 Eliot St, Cambridge, MA

Cost: No charge, beyond what you eat and drink

Registration, more details and a map: https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/Dine-aroundSLA

Hope to see you there!
Brandy, Co-Chair of the Local Arrangement Committee for the 2015 SLA Conference in Boston
The Value of Knowledge and Information

January 23, 2015 Categories: News & Notes

Craig Foden, currently working for the SROI Network on research and development for the Global Value Exchange, shares findings from research around the value created by museums, galleries and libraries.

What change are we looking at? (The Outcome)

The outcome “Use of museums, galleries and libraries (change in)” formed the central focus of this piece of research. I felt that this outcome was highly relevant in light of recent cuts to libraries and the arts which have raised serious debate over the true value these services generate for society.

In outlining the research approach into “Use of museums, galleries, and libraries”, Foden illustrates the causal relationships between different outcomes and identifies ways in which libraries, museums, and galleries impact society indirectly. An intriguing perspective for information professionals!
March 31st Lunchtime Dine Around at the Northampton Brewery (Western Massachusetts)

Come join fellow librarians and information professionals at the Northampton Brewery for lunch to knowledge share about what we are doing in our careers and discuss the annual conference heading to Boston in June.

**Date:** Tuesday, March 31st

**Time:** 12pm to 1:30pm

**Location:** 11 Brewster Ct, Northampton, MA 01060, (413) 584-9903

**Direction:** http://northamptonbrewery.com/find-us/

**Cost:** Only cost is for what you eat or drink!

**RSVP:** By Monday morning, March 30th https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/03312025WM

**Contact:** Khalilah Gambrell (gambrell9899@gmail.com) or Devon McArdle (devonannmcardle@gmail.com)
SLA New England MerlinOne Student Scholarship

February 25, 2015 Categories: Awards & Recognition, Conferences, News & Notes, Stipends

Inviting Applications for

SLA New England MerlinOne Student Scholarship to Attend SLA 2015 Annual Conference in BOSTON, MA

MerlinOne

SLA New England together with MerlinOne Digital Asset Management is pleased to announce a $1500 stipend available to a current MLS student in the New England area. Since the conference is held in Boston this year, the Chapter may choose to split the stipend among multiple recipients.

The Special Libraries Association (SLA) is a nonprofit global organization for innovative information professionals and their strategic partners. SLA serves more than 7,000 members in 75 countries in the information profession, including corporate, academic and government information specialists. SLA promotes and strengthens its members through learning, advocacy, and networking initiatives.

Reasons to attend SLA Conference:
- Networking opportunities—share your experiences and learn from other information professionals.
- Over 200 events, including educational programs, networking events, receptions, and tours.
- The latest technologies from leading industry partners, all under one roof in the INFO-EXPO Hall.

SLA New England Student Travel Stipend Award Criteria

QUALIFICATIONS:
- Be currently enrolled as a degree candidate at an ALA-accredited academic program in Library and Information Science.
- Be a first time attendee of an SLA conference.

APPLICATION PROCESS:
Submit a document containing the following information/elements:

- Full name.
- Academic affiliation: Institution and Program.
- Start date of program; number of semesters and courses completed as of December 2014; and anticipated date of graduation.
- Contact information, including mailing address, telephone, and email.
- Other SLA division awards, if any, for which you are applying.
- An essay of no more than 2 pages (see details below). The essay should be double-spaced.

Submissions will be judged on the basis of originality and clarity as well as on inclusion of all required information. Neatness, spelling, grammar, and completion of all required information will count in judging.

ESSAY DESCRIPTION:
Write an essay of up to 2 pages on one of the following topics:
1) How are you revolutionary in your internship or job?
2) What does it mean to connect in the digital age?

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATION SUBMISSION:
Monday, April 27th, 2015
APPLICATION PROCESS:

Applications should be emailed as a single file attachment in Microsoft Word or PDF to Wendy Austin, SLA New England Student Relations Committee Chair, at the following email address: austin.wendy@gmail.com.

Please contact Wendy with questions about the application process.

POST AWARD:

Awardee(s) will write about his or her conference experience for posting on the SLA New England Website (http://newengland.sla1.org/).

Awardee(s) is encouraged to serve a one-year term as the Student Relations Committee Co-Chair of the SLA New England Chapter or, if graduating after the 2014 spring semester, to serve as a member of the Student Relations Committee (the latter may be accomplished virtually, if the recipient is no longer a New England resident following graduation).

NOTIFICATION AND AWARD DISTRIBUTION:

Applicants will receive notification of award status in early May 2015.

The winners will make their own conference and registration arrangements and will receive prompt reimbursement for travel expenses after the conference by submitting travel receipts to the SLA New England treasurer. The award may be applied to the SLA membership costs, SLA student conference registration fee, transportation, and lodging costs. Meals and incidental expenses are not covered.

With many thanks to our 2015 sponsorship partner!
Bowling Towards SLA Conference in Boston! Join us for candlepin bowling at Sacco’s Bowl Haven in Somerville

March 5, 2015 Categories: News & Notes, Programs

Let’s go bowling! Join fellow librarians and information professionals for good food and bowling at Sacco’s Bowl-Haven & Flatbread Pizza as we prepare to host the annual conference!

**Date/Time/Location**
Date: Thursday, March 26th
Time: 5:30 to 7:30 pm
Location/Direction: Sacco’s Bowl Haven, 45 Day Street, Somerville, MA (http://flatbreadcompany.com/FlatbreadSacco2010.html)
Public Transportation: Red Line, Davis Square

**Fee:** $7 per person (for lane rental) – Pay at the event, via check, or via Paypal

RSVP by Tuesday, March 24th at https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/bowling032015

Contact: Donna Thompson and Khalilah Gambrell (gambrell9899@gmail.com)
SLA NE March photo contest (deadline 3/23/2015)

March 11, 2015 Categories: News & Notes

With several feet of snow still on the ground and less than 100 days until the Annual conference, our first photo contest of 2015 is featuring New England landmarks. Let’s think summer and highlight all the fantastic places New England has to offer. So dig out your non-winter photos of your trips to Fenway, Walden Pond, Mt. Washington or Mystic!

- The theme is New England landmarks
- Photographs submitted should be an original photograph taken by you
- The winning photograph will be featured on our chapter website, Facebook and Twitter pages until the next photo contest
- The photographer will win a $25 gift card
- The winner will be chosen by poll on Facebook
- Submit entries by March 23 for voting to slanewengland@gmail.com with the subject line: March Photo Contest

Good luck!

Joy McNally Brandow

Director of Communications, SLA New England
SLA NE photo contest voting (deadline 4/10/2015)

April 2, 2015 Categories: News & Notes, Photo contest

Thank you to everyone who submitted photos for our March contest! The theme is New England landmarks. Voting is open April 3-10. Click the thumbnails for a larger size, and you can vote for as many as you’d like. Please “like” your favorite pictures below!

The winner will be announced Monday, April 13.

Rockport By Don Rickter
Mayflower II at Mystic Seaport By Jane Burke
Paying my respects to Mr. Poe By Nicole Dutton

White Mountains, NH By Tara Breton
Revere Beach By Toby Pearlstein
Swan boats in Spring By Rosanna Longenbaker

Carousel at the Greenway By Jacqueline Boudrot
Old Sturbridge Village By Tara Breton
Boston harbor cruise By Jacqueline Boudrot

Boston Harbor in the Summer By Marcia Olson
New England Acquarium By Tara Breton
Thompson Island By Marcia Olson

Visiting the sheep at Old Sturbridge Village By Tara Breton
Boston harbor By Marcia Olson
Canceled – SLA New England: May 9th Seaport Crawl

April 9, 2015 Categories: Programs

*Unfortunately we’ve had to cancel our Seaport event. Refunds will be issued shortly if you have already paid.*

Join us for one of the final events before we host the Annual Conference! We are going to check out the Seaport area which is the home of this year’s annual conference at the Boston Convention and Exhibition Center. The event is a great opportunity to:

– Get an opportunity to see the area and learn from others what it offers.
– Network with peers.
– Learn about sessions so you can complete planning your conference.
– Knowledge share and get tips on how to get the most out of the conference!

Appetizers will be served at each stop.

Date/Time/Stops
Date: Saturday, May 9th
Time: 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm

First Stop: Papagayo – “Buzzing Mexican kitchen & tequila bar starring guacamole made tableside & stiff margaritas.”
Address: 283 Summer St, Boston, MA 02210
Phone: (617) 423-1000
Website: http://www.papagayoboston.com

Second Stop: Lucky’s Lounge – Oldie but goodie dive bar in the area.
Address: 355 Congress St, Boston, MA
Phone: (617) 357-5825
Website: http://www.luckyslounge.com/

Third Stop The Barking Crab – “Lively waterfront seafood joint with open-air picnic-table dining & views of the Boston Harbor.”
Address: 88 Sleeper St, Boston, MA 02210
Phone: (617) 426-2722
Website: http://www.barkingcrab.com/

We hope folks will continue to stay in the area after the crawl and have fun at some of the other restaurants in the area.

Map of all stops http://goo.gl/I9IMoy

Cost: Can pay by Paypal, check, or cash

Retired/Student/Member: $10 per person

Non-member: $15 per person

Public Transportation: Commuter Rail or Red Line Stop: South Station and Silver Line Stop: Courthouse

Parking: Several parking lots in the area.

Contact: Khalilah Gambrell (gambrell9899@gmail.com)

RSVP by Thursday, May 7th at https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/Seaport_crawl
SLA NE photo contest winner

April 13, 2015 Categories: Awards & Recognition, News & Notes, Photo contest

SLA New England is pleased to announce the winner of our March photo contest:

Rosanna Longenbaker with her photo “Swan boats”

Her photo won with 11 votes. The theme was New England landmarks. Congratulations, Rosanna!

Thank you to everyone that submitted photographs for our contest, and we appreciate everyone’s flexibility as we expanded voting to the website.

The winning photo will become the cover image for our social media pages and will be featured on the SLA New England website until our next contest. Keep your cameras ready; we’ll announce our next theme soon!

Joy McNally Brandow
Director of Communications
Apply for the Elsevier + SLA New England Chapter Conference Stipend by May 29th

May 15, 2015 Categories: Awards & Recognition, News & Notes

With less than 30 days to the start of the conference, our partner, Elsevier is offering a $500 stipend to an SLA New England Chapter member to attend this year’s annual conference. For anyone interested in attending the conference for one day, the $500 fully covers the registration fee. To be eligible for the stipend, an applicant must:

- Be an SLA New England Chapter Member
- Take on an agreed upon volunteer assignment with the New England Chapter over the next 12 months (post conference)
- Write a brief recap about one of the sessions s/he attends for the SLA New England Chapter website. (post conference)
- Submit an application https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/Elsevier2015ConfStipend by May 29th at 5pm.

Notifications will be sent by June 2nd. Recipient will be announced prior to the conference.

At the conference, please be sure to stop by Elsevier’s booth in the INFO-Expo Hall to thank them for their generous support!

For any questions or comments about the stipend, please contact Khalilah Gambrell at gambrell9899@gmail.com.

ELSEVIER
SLA New England MerlinOne Student Scholarship winners announced!

May 18, 2015 Categories: Awards & Recognition

Thanks to the generosity of MerlinOne, SLA New England was able to award three scholarships to the SLA Annual conference in Boston this year. Congratulations to Anna Boutin, Andrew Simeone, and Eliana Fenyes. If you are attending SLA in June, please take the time to congratulate our award winners! Each award winner will post their conference highlights over the summer.

MerlinOne

The 2015 award recipients are:

**Anna Boutin** is an MLIS candidate at Simmons School of Library and Information Science, where she currently serves as President of LISSA, the Library and Information Science Student Association at Simmons SLIS. Her interests include special libraries, art librarianship, academic libraries, and library leadership. Anna holds her BA in Theatre Performance from Emmanuel College (Boston), where she minored in both art history and gender and women’s studies. She is currently employed with Draper Laboratory as a Student Library Assistant, and with her alma mater as a Part-Time Reference Librarian.

Andrew Simeone was born in Cliffside Park, New Jersey, just across the river from New York City. He attended Bergen County Technical High School, majoring in Law and Justice. Afterwards, he attended The College of New Jersey (TCNJ), majoring in History with a minor in Chinese. During his time at TCNJ, he had the pleasure of studying abroad in China at Peking University in Beijing. He now attends Simmons College for graduate studies in their Library and Information Sciences Program, Archives Concentration.

Eliana Fenyes is a graduate student at the Simmons College School of Library and Information Science, where she studies cultural heritage informatics. She is interested in the digitization of visual art and literature as a means of creating accessibility to cultural heritage. Eliana became involved in special libraries after becoming the Library Intern at America’s Test Kitchen, where she currently works. As the incoming Vice President of the SLA student group at Simmons College, SLA@Simmons, she hopes to connect library students with special libraries and librarians involved in the arts and humanities. Eliana will graduate in 2016 with her M.S. in Library and Information Science.

A special thank you goes to Wendy Austin, 2015 Student Relations chair.
Apply for the Competitive Intelligence Division + SLA New England Conference Stipend by May 27th

May 18, 2015 Categories: Awards & Recognition, News & Notes, Stipends

With less than 30 days to the start of the conference, the Competitive Intelligence (CI) Division is offering a $750 stipend to attend this year’s annual conference.

To be eligible for the stipend, an applicant must:

- Be a SLA New England member
- Be a Competitive Intelligence Division member
- Take on an agreed upon volunteer assignment with the CI Division over the next 12 months (post conference)
- Write a brief recap about one of the sessions you attend for the SLA New England website. (post conference)
- Submit an application https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/CIDConfStipend by EOD, Wednesday May 27th.

Notifications will be sent by Friday, May 29th. An official announcement and stipend presentation will be made at the CI Open House/Reception on Monday, June 15th at 7:00pm.

Lastly, applicants can apply for both this stipend and the Elsevier stipend. An applicant cannot win both stipends.

For any questions or comments about the stipend, please contact Khalilah Gambrell at gambrell9899@gmail.com.
Schedule of SLA NE Members Presenting in Boston!

June 9, 2015 Categories: News & Notes

While finalizing your schedule for SLA 2015, don’t forget to check out the sessions of your fellow SLA New England members. Below is a schedule we’ve pulled together. (Thank you to everyone that submitted your info to the survey!)

SLA New England Members Presenting at SLA Boston 2015

Saturday, June 13

8:00 am – 5:00 pm **Heather Hedden**, Cengage Learning teaching **CE Class: Introduction to Taxonomies and Controlled Vocabularies** – Schedule Link

Sunday, June 14

11:45-1:15 **Toby Pearlstein** moderating **CRESCENDO: Islamic Finance and Banking: An Introduction for Researchers** – Schedule Link

11:45 – 1:15pm **Jacob Ratliff**, Management Sciences for Health speaking and moderating **An Introduction to Developing a Better Web-based User Experience** – Schedule Link

1:30 – 1:45pm **Tracy Z Maleef**, Duane Morris LLP speaking at **QUICK TAKE – Legal Resources and Research Using Twitter** – Schedule Link

1:30 – 3:00pm **Christopher Erdmann**, Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics moderating **Astronomy Roundtable** – Schedule Link

1:30 – 3:00pm **Fred Wergeles, Fred Wergeles & Associates** speaking at **CRESCENDO: New Roles for Librarians and Info Pros: Developing a CI Function from Beginner to Expert** – Schedule Link

1:30 – 3:00pm **Heather McCann**, Hampshire College speaking at **Cultivating Seed Libraries** – Schedule Link

3:30 – 5:00pm **Karen Vagts**, Tufts University Tisch Library speaking at **CRESCENDO: The Next Great Invention: How to Help your Organization Make it a Reality** – Schedule Link

3:30 – 5:00pm **Ethel Salonen**, The Mitre Corp moderating **Social Enterprise – MITRE’s Knowledge Driven Enterprise** – Schedule Link

3:30 – 5:00pm **Dorothy Barr**, Harvard University Libraries moderating **Genetic Mutations: How Do They Arise and What Do They Do? Interdisciplinary Perspectives** – Schedule Link

Monday, June 15

8:00-9:30am. **John Aubrey**, Analysis Group moderating, **Toby Pearlstein** and **Jamie Emery**, Fidelity Investments speaking at **Corporate Information Centers (CIC) Section Meeting and Breakfast/Panel Discussion: Measuring Effectiveness and Proving Value** – Schedule Link

8:00 – 9:30am **Jack Cahill**, Babson College Horn Library and **Cynthia Robinson**, Bain Capital speaking at **Financial Services Section Meeting and Breakfast** – Schedule Link

12:00 – 1:30pm **Juliane Schneider**, UCSD Research Data Curation Program moderating and **Christopher Erdmann**, Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics speaking at **Scientists’ Data & Information Practices: Critical Roles for Information Professionals to Promote Data Management & Open Sharing** – Schedule Link

5:00 – 7:00pm **Donna Thompson**, Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory, presenter at the **All Sciences Poster Session** her poster: **NASA’s Astrophysics Data System -new and improved: beyond classic** – Schedule Link

**7:00-9:00pm the East Coast Reception – Schedule Link**

Tuesday, June 16


8:00 – 9:30am **Maureen Festa**, Massachusetts Institute of Technology speaking at **Careers in Prospect Research: The Basics** – Schedule Link

8:00 – 9:30am **Tony Stankus**, University of Arkansas @ Fayetteville speaking at **Deconstructing Storage: Creating Safe Spaces for your Physical Collections – “Insects that infest Libraries, Archives & Museums”** – Schedule Link

11:00 – 12:00pm **Eileen Abels**, Dean Simmons College SLIS, and **John Aubrey & Victoria Hopcroft of Analysis Group** speaking at **MASTER CLASS: The
Role of Information Professionals in Supporting Business Development – the Potential of Information Partnerships – Schedule Link

2:00 – 3:30pm Jacob Ratliff, Management Sciences for Health speaking at CRESCErDO: SharePoint, Metadata and Taxonomy – Schedule Link

2:00 – 3:30pm Tracy Z Maleef, Duane Morris LLP speaking at SLA Contributed Papers – TuesdaySession – Schedule Link
Congratulations to Elsevier and SLA New England Conference Stipend Recipient – Rachel Zides

June 15, 2015 Categories: Stipends

Rachel Zides is the recipient of the Elsevier and SLA New England Conference Stipend. The $500 stipend will help cover some of her conference expenses.

About Rachel
An Information Specialist with over 20 years of experience in various corporate research environments. She has experience working in financial services, management consulting, and for executive search firms. Rachel is currently working at Innosight in Lexington, MA as an Information Services Specialist. She earned her MLS from Syracuse University and her undergraduate degree from Union College. Rachel lives in Southborough, MA with her husband, three children, and one crazy puppy Duke.

Congratulations to Rachel!

Thank you to Elsevier for its support! If you are at the conference, please be sure to stop by Elsevier’s booth in the INFO-Expo Hall to thank them for their generous support!

ELSEVIER
Congratulations to Competitive Intelligence Division and SLA New England Conference Stipend Recipient – Victoria Lefevers

June 15, 2015 Categories: Stipends

Victoria Lefevers is the Competitive Intelligence (CI) Division and SLA New England Conference Stipend winner. As the recipient, she will receive a $750 stipend to help with conference expenses.

About Victoria
Victoria leads market and competitive intelligence for Carbonite, a Boston-based technology firm. Her background includes running communications for the CI division at EMC, and a wealth of education and healthcare research and research management. She holds a MA in Communication from UNC at Greensboro, and a MBA and graduate certificate in CI from Carey Business School at Johns Hopkins University.

Congratulations Victoria!

Special Thanks to Competitive Intelligence Division for its generous support.
Thoughts on SLA 2015 from a first time attendee

July 7, 2015 Categories: Conferences, News & Notes, Stipends
The following reflection on the 2015 Annual conference is from Andrew Simeone, one of the 2015 SLA New England MerlinOne Student Scholarship winners.

Fate or chance, take your pick. Whichever one you believe in, I was fortuitous to be able to attend the SLA Conference in Boston. I had chosen to attend the Simmons College Graduate School of Library and Information Science to learn how to become an archivist, never realizing that this opportunity would present itself. But seeing as it had, I am proud that I was able to take the opportunity to go and learn about prevalent trends in the Library and Information Science professions and make connections with those in the field.

If there is one aspect of the convention that I was grateful for, other than the ability to make connections, it was being able to attend seminars that were tailored towards both first time attendees and students in Graduate School. One such course, “It’s Not Easy Being Green: A Real World LIS Discussion for Students and New Professionals,” was exceptional in this regard. One speaker directly compared the job market to Kenny Roger’s “The Gambler”, knowing when to hold and when to fold. The speaker also gave advice on how to get a job and how to keep a job.

Another seminar I found helpful was “What To Do When They Say ‘Give Me Everything You Have On…’ and Not Freak Out Because They Want It in and Hour.” Everyone involved in the field, both pre-professional and professional, has had this happen to them in one form or another. The speaker divided the advice into ten bullet points, starting with the Number 1 rule from The Hitchhiker’s Guide to the Galaxy, DON’T PANIC!!” She then proceeded to inform the audience to know the clients, limitations, flexibility, crucial information, and resources. She then told us that if all else failed, an advanced Google search could help the researcher.

Overall, this was a great convention. As a first time attendee I found it informative and a great networking opportunity for someone new to the field. I would like to end this with some advice to anyone who is thinking of attending the next conference, whether first time participants or regular convention attendees. My advice is:

1. Seriously consider attending. You will expand your knowledge of the field and make lasting connections, two key components of getting jobs.
2. Look for stipends. If you feel that you cannot afford to go, always look for ways for you to be reimbursed. Plus looking for opportunities enhances your researching skills.
3. Plan ahead. Schedules are put up for a reason. Make sure you know what you are going to and have a fallback plan in case your first choice does not meet your expectations.
4. Know your transportation options. If you are using public transportation, make sure you know what time works best and if it will take you where you are going. Take it from someone who had to wake up at 5 every day to get the right bus and then do three train transfers to get to the convention center.
5. Remain calm. The first time you see the convention and its activity might make your head spin. Don’t worry; we have all been there. Just take a deep breath and do everything at your own pace.
6. Bring business cards. This is one of the best networking opportunities. Get your name out to whomever and wherever you can. The job market waits!
7. Take Notes. Everything you learn and everyone you meet will be more memorable if you take notes. You should retain knowledge and connections, not forget them.
8. Have fun. The more fun you have, the more memorable it will be.

But do not just take it from me. It is one thing to hear it from someone, but an even greater prospect to do it yourself. Go on. Do it. The time is ripe to seize the moment.

Thank you to MerlinOne for generously sponsoring the 2015 SLA New England Student Scholarships!

MerlinOne

http://newengland.sla1.org/?post-type=post&show_title=1&show_date...
Finding Community at SLA Annual

July 25, 2015 Categories: Awards & Recognition, News & Notes

This is the second of three posts from our 2015 SLA New England MerlinOne Student Scholarship winners. **Eliana Fenyes**, is currently a graduate student at Simmons College and an intern at America’s Test Kitchen.

Even though I had prepared for the SLA Annual conference by getting advice from professionals and studying the conference schedule, the experience that I had at the conference was unexpected and inspiring. As a newcomer to SLA and the library and information science field, I was excited to meet so many knowledgeable and seasoned professionals. This summer follows my first year of graduate school: I am still figuring out how I fit into the library world, and how I can contribute to the field. Despite my “first-timer” status, the professionals at the conference treated me as a peer. These professionals were as interested in hearing about my graduate work and my plans for my career as I was in hearing about their careers, and their journeys in the field of library and information science. It became clear to me that the professionals in SLA are excited about the next generation of librarians and information professionals. After speaking to so many librarians and info pros at SLA Annual, I came away from the conference with a very strong sense of community.

The conference was a wonderful place to learn about libraries and information resources that are still new to me. I attended sessions that I hadn’t expected to attend, such as sessions on business and copyright. I spoke to vendors about technology that I hope to work with in the future. From other conference attendees, I learned about chemistry libraries, medical libraries, corporate libraries, and military libraries. I met consultants who had spent years perfecting the art of research, and solo librarians who pioneer initiatives to provide service to entire offices. I met archivists and librarians who work tirelessly to involve communities with local museums and libraries, and innovative graduate students who are working to improve the field even before receiving their degrees. I was so inspired by the professionals that I met and the sessions that I attended: at the end of the conference I was brimming with ideas for my own career, and for the work that I can do to add to the library and information science field.

SLA Annual 2015 taught me that despite our different areas of expertise and the vastly different workplaces we inhabit, the professionals in SLA share very important goals. We care about the freedom of information, and promoting information literacy. We are passionate about the ways that information and technology can improve the world around us. We care about meeting the information needs of individuals, and we operate under the notion that access to information is a necessity for all, both in and out of the workplace. As a student entering the field, I am energized by the work that professionals in SLA do to achieve these goals. I am excited to know that no matter which niche of special libraries I choose to enter, I will always be working with professionals who love their work and who constantly work to better the field. I will carry my experience at SLA annual with me as I complete my final year of graduate school, and I look forward to being part of the SLA community as I enter the library and information science field as a professional.

Thank you to MerlinOne for generously sponsoring the 2015 SLA New England Student Scholarships!

MerlinOne
Lessons-learned from an SLA Annual first timer

August 10, 2015 Categories: Awards & Recognition, News & Notes, Stipends

This is the final essay from our 2015 SLA New England MerlinOne Student Scholarship winners. It is written by Anna Boutin, a graduate student at Simmons College and current president of LISSA.

SLA Annual 2015 was a great experience—from Leigh Gallagher’s keynote address to my last session, I truly enjoyed my time, made great connections, and learned quite a bit. I have a few thoughts and pieces of advice for my fellow first-timers that I would like to share.

Honestly, professional conferences can be overwhelming, especially for first-timers. Make sure that you prepare yourself, bring snacks, drink plenty of water, and take breaks to recharge—even if you don’t think you need it! It is also worth checking out first-timer networking events, and getting a first-timer ribbon.

Attend sessions that strike a balance between your interests and the completely new. While there, take notes if something particularly strikes you, but don’t forget to be present in the session – chances are you’ll probably absorb more from it if you do not have your head stuck in your notes for the entire session.

Do not be afraid to talk to vendors. Yes, as a student without any real purchasing power this felt awkward at the beginning, but it is so important. Strike up a conversation with the vendors, ask them about their products, and get to know them. Who knows where you will end up later on.

Similarly network, network, network! I know no one really loves networking all the time, but it is such a crucial part of the conference. Say hello to the person sitting next to you at a session, reconnect with friends and colleagues, and expand your network.

Finally, be sure to pay attention to your own needs. Take time to go to a session or two that you are truly interested in, and enjoy your time at the conference. It goes by so fast – I found it very helpful to take a few quick breaks throughout the day to sit and collect my thoughts.

Thank you to MerlinOne for generously sponsoring the 2015 SLA New England Student Scholarships!

MerlinOne
Meet a Member: Sarah Curran, Abt Associates (Cambridge, MA)

August 31, 2015 Categories: Member Profile, News & Notes

Our member profile this month is with Sarah Curran, Librarian & Knowledge Manager at Abt Associates (Cambridge, MA), and current Solo Division secretary.

Abt Associates is a research and evaluation firm that works with the US government to research and evaluate policies and help implement programs in the areas of health, food, and the environment.

How did you first learn about SLA?

I joined SLA in 2008 while I was at Simmons College. I knew I wanted to work in a special library environment while at Simmons and joined SLA to network and learn more about the field. I joined the Solo Division a couple of years ago after starting at Abt, which has been very helpful to learn about what others are working on in similar environments to me.

What do you enjoy most about working at Abt?

I think my favorite part of working at Abt has been the people. It’s clear that everyone I get to interact with really enjoys the work they do and have a sense of pride in what they are doing. Many people have been excited to see the library grow over the past few years, and are happy to offer suggestions and provide support in getting the word out on the resources and services offered.

How do you network at work?

When I started we established a Library Advisory Committee of staff from each of our research divisions to provide input on our services and resources, and also to provide support in promoting the library throughout the organization. These people introduced me to others in their divisions who I’ve been able to also go to for support and questions.

What challenges are you facing at work?

I started at Abt five years ago. They had previously had a formal library, but at one point no one was managing it or providing services, and my job was to bring it back. We’ve been able to grow the library back up over this time. A recent project has been the launch of a new web interface and design for the library services. In the next year, I have a goal of expanding our reach to our offsite offices around the world. This means supporting multiple languages and time zones, so I’ll be working with staff in our US offices to help support training overseas. We’ve also just added an e-book collection to our library in order to further support our remote staff.

What is your favorite pastime?

In my spare time, I like to cook and bake, trying new recipes. Our office has a CSA through the summer and fall so it’s fun to try to cook with something new or unusual. I also enjoy traveling; some of my favorite places include San Francisco and Napa Valley, and Ireland, and I’m looking forward to a trip to Argentina and Brazil in the fall!

If you’d like to participate in the member profile series or have a suggestion for a chapter member we should feature, please let us know at slanewengland AT gmail.com.
Nominations now being accepted for 2016 board positions

September 1, 2015 Categories: News & Notes Tags: elections

SLA New England is seeking members who would like to add joining a nonprofit board to their career experience, beginning in January 2016. This September, we are seeking three members to join the executive board in the following positions:

- President-Elect (3-year term)
- Treasurer (2-year term)
- Strategic Planning (2-year term)

Details on the responsibilities of these offices are described in the chapter’s practices document. Feel free to reach out to any of the current board members if you have additional questions.

Experience is not necessary. If you are elected, you will gain wide experience in board service, leadership, communication, coordinating events, setting goals and managing projects. Geographical residence in the New England region is not required, and the board often meets via virtual conferencing.

It is also an opportunity to give back to the chapter and Association, while gaining skills to advance your information career.

If you would like to nominate yourself, or a colleague who is willing to serve, please contact one of the SLA Executive Board in advance of October 1, 2015.

Leigh

Leigh Montgomery

Immediate Past-President and 2016 Nominating Committee Chair

SLA New England
Let’s Give Them Something to Talk About

September 25, 2015 Categories: Member Profile, News & Notes

A Fun Way to Celebrate National Library Week

By Marcia Olson, Manager, Information Resources, Gradient (Cambridge, MA)

For the past 20 years the Information Resource Center (IRC) at Gradient, an environmental sciences consulting company headquartered in Harvard Square, has hosted an annual National Library Week celebration and awards ceremony. Yes, it’s our way of doing a little library marketing, but mostly it’s an opportunity to thank the entire Gradient staff for being such great supporters of the IRC. We use it as an opportunity to exact some light-hearted revenge for some of the information challenges they have thrown our way, or just to poke some good-natured fun at other information faux pas or Gradient foibles we have witnessed. And we often don’t even celebrate it during National Library Week; no one cares – it’s whenever we can get our act together. Usually June.

We advertise several weeks in advance to get the anticipation level up. We also run a contest with the winner(s) receiving Amazon gift certificates. Where in the past our contests used to highlight one of our information resources, in recent years we have tended to more fun activities like Book Spine Poetry or Six Word Gradient Memoirs. The entries are hilarious and everyone on staff can enter. We serve delicious cake from a local bakery and put on an hour presentation in the afternoon. Even staff from our remote offices join in the fun. We start off our awards with the “metrics” – “Most Document Intensive Project” and “Most Cited Article” (but we give the award a funny name like “Let’s Give Them Something to Talk About”). Then we move on to awards like “Needle in a Haystack” – the award for the most obscure or deeply-buried research question, or “Inquiring Minds Want to Know” which we give to some really fascinating and unusual research topic. And then we make up funny awards unique to each year such as “Best Excuse Ever” or “Can I Check Your References?” or “The Shill of Industry” awards. Along with the awards we hand out certificates (that are proudly displayed in offices throughout the company) and zany props. For instance, the winner of the references award mentioned earlier got a copy of Mary Norris’ Between You & Me: Confessions of a Comma Queen.

IRC staff members Dan Oliveira, Marcia Olson, Ruth Lyddy, and Sarah Albright. Gradient staff member Zach Zelinski (Seattle office) in the middle.

The staff look forward to this event every year and love to see who is going to get “honored” or “roasted”. They often nominate themselves or other staff members for an award throughout the year. I’m not sure I even made it back to my office after this year’s award ceremony before the first 2016 self-nomination landed in my email box. It’s a fun and easy way to remind staff of how integrated the IRC is into the workflow and project teams at Gradient. I am incredibly grateful to work with people who have such a great sense of humor and who love to hear about some of the inner workings of how we do our jobs in such a fun way.

Thank you to Marcia Olson, Manager, Information Resources at Gradient, for sharing their spin on an advocacy event. If your organization has a unique event or an innovative practice that you would like to share, please email slanewenglandATgmail.com
Ready to Lead! Accepting Nominations for Chapter President – Elect

October 1, 2015 Categories: News & Notes

We are looking for the next President-Elect. Our next chapter leader. It is a great opportunity to lead and help your peers. You have the opportunity with fellow officers and committee chairs to define the chapter’s outlook for the next two years.

President-Elect Responsibilities
1. Plan two programs (one in Spring and one in Fall), an Annual Conference Meetup for drinks & appetizers, and an Annual Business Meeting.
2. Lead Programming Committee to help with all aspects of programming planning. Committee volunteers will be in place when s/he begins term.
3. Learn chapter operations, members, and history to prepare for his/her Presidency in 2017.
4. Attend 2016 and 2017 Annual Conferences (partial funding will be provided) and represent chapter at board meetings.

President-Elect Key Benefits:
- Enhance your professional standing. You are a leader and known as such by your peers.
- Develop critical skills such as project management, delegation, public speaking, and negotiation that will help in your career advancement. You learn these skills in a supportive environment.
- Share your knowledge with others. Learn to be a leader and mentor future leaders.

Time Commitment: We understand that time is a big concern for folks considering this position. We will have a Programming Committee to help with programming. We do not expect anyone to plan programs alone. Once President, you will have officers and committees to carry out your vision. You will be supported. WE ARE A COMMUNITY.

If you are interested in the President-Elect role or want to nominate a person please contact any member of the Nominating Committee today!

SLA New England Nominating Committee
Leigh Montgomery, Chair – montgomeryl@csmonitor.com
Joy McNally Brandow – jmcnallybrandow@gmail.com
Paula Cohen – paulacohen00@gmail.com
Tell Us What You Want! Complete 2016 Spring Program Survey by November 16th

October 25, 2015 Categories: News & Notes, Programs

2016 will be a fun and exciting year for SLA New England. We want to kick off 2016 with a Spring Program and we need your help!

We have created a survey to gather information on what kind of program you want. Lastly, in order to put on this program we are asking for Spring Program Committee members. We will meet once a month virtually starting in December and concluding in March.

Please complete our survey by end of day on Monday, November 16th.

Have questions? Contact, President-Elect Khalilah Gambrell (gambrell9899@gmail.com).
October 2015: News and Upcoming Events

October 26, 2015 Categories: News & Notes, Programs

On a recurring basis, we will post updates and a list of upcoming SLA and SLA New England events. If you have any news and events to share, send them to slanewengland@gmail.com.

News and Events

- 10/27 – SLA B & F Division webinar: Using Media Intelligence and Data Visualization to Provide Strategic Insight
- 10/30 – SLA PHT Division webinar: Secrets of LinkedIn for Information Professionals Revealed
- 11/10 – SLA New England co-sponsored webinar: How to Manage Your Local Node In A Global Workplace
- 11/13 – SLA IT & DC/SLA Webinar: Custom Information Solutions at the National Institutes of Health
- 12/4 – Deadline for SLA 2016 paper proposals
- 12/8 – Save the Date! SLA New England Annual Business Meeting
- 12/9 – SLA@Simmons ResumeX – Resume Reviewers Needed

October 27 — Using Media Intelligence and Data Visualization to Provide Strategic Insight (presented by SLA’s B & F Division and LexisNexis)

Presenter: Christine Hayes, Director of Market Intelligence, NBC Universal
Date/Time: Tuesday, October 27, 2015 / 2:00 PM – 3:00 PM ET

Reserve your Webinar Seat Now at: https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/6065511237742469634

Learn more about how Christine Hayes and her organization are looking at data visualization and other tools to use to analyze trends and provide better strategic insights to drive business growth at NBCU Advertising Sales Division. Identifying emerging categories, changing technologies and new products, are examples of trends that can be spotted with media intelligence and can provide actionable insight to propel new opportunities. Media trends can also project growth or decline for specific factors, and data visualization can help bring those trends to light much faster. For more information about this webinar, contact Jeff Graveline at jgraveli@uab.edu.

October 30 — Webinar: Secrets of LinkedIn for Information Professionals Revealed (presented by PHT Division and InfoDesk)

Date/Time: Friday, October 30, 2015 /12:00 p.m. EDT
Cost: Free

Register online—space is limited! (This webinar will be recorded)

The webinar is designed to help information professionals, including librarians and competitive intelligence professionals, understand the value of LinkedIn networking. The webinar will demonstrate how LinkedIn can be used as a professional development and audience development tool—even for non job seekers.

This webinar will provide practical steps that information professionals should take to:

- Improve their LinkedIn profiles.
- Connect with many, many more of their current colleagues and peers.
- Stay connected to reinforce the value they provide their audiences.

About the speaker: Sean Smith, Vice President of Marketing at InfoDesk. Smith is also the PHT Division PR Chair and 2015 Spring Meeting Program Chair. He has studied LinkedIn Strategy and helped companies and individuals optimize their LinkedIn profiles and create more effective networking strategies and communications.

November 10 — How to Manage Your Local Node In A Global Workplace (co-sponsored by SLA New England)

Date/Time: Tuesday, November 10, 2015 / 5:00 to 6:00 pm ET
Cost: $5 for SLA New England Members

The SLA New York Chapter and Solo Librarians Division are pleased to present our final 2015 webinar with Pat Wagner of SIERA (sieralearn.com), generously co-sponsored by nine other units (Thank you!).

You might live in Florida and commute to Georgia, but your work team is spread over the entire planet. If bosses, co-workers, employees, customers, and vendors live in different times zones, speak different languages, and need to communicate with different equipment and protocols, what does it mean to manage relationships and resources?

Agenda:

- Introduction: The Communication Overhead Of Working At A Distance
- The Key Idea: Even Small Enterprises Need More And Better Communication
• Who Makes Decisions For The Entire Worknet, And How?
• How To Establish Rapport And Goodwill
• What Are The Expectations Of The Other Person And Their Office Or Team?
• Evaluate Communication, Particularly During Project Deadlines: Is This Working?
• Evaluate Technology At Least Once A Year: Is Everyone Upgrading Together?

Outcomes:
• Improve productivity among virtual co-workers
• Coordinate communication to lower management costs.
• Build positive workplace relationships even at a distance.

About Speaker: Pat Wagner has been a trainer and consultant for libraries since 1978. She is a frequent speaker at national library conferences and SLA, AALL, and MLA chapter meetings around the US and Canada. She is known for her practical and good-humored programs.

Webinar Fees
$5 – Members of Solo Division and SLA NY
$5 – Members of Co-sponsoring Units:
– Divisions: Leadership and Management and Petroleum and Energy Resources;
– Chapters: Alabama, DC, Hudson Valley, Michigan, North Carolina, New England and San Francisco
$10 – SLA Members
$20 – Non-members

Registration
Register in two easy steps:
1. Pay the webinar fee using the SLA NY website and PayPal at:
   http://newyork.sla.org/events-2/event-registration/?ee=206
2. Register for the webinar using the URL sent to you in your confirmation message.

*Paid registrants may access a recording of the webinar so sign up even if you can’t attend in person.

Questions? Contact SLA NY Professional Development Chair Tom Nielsen at: tnielsen@metro.org

November 13 — Webinar: Custom Information Solutions at the National Institutes of Health (hosted by IT Division and co-sponsored by DC/SLA Chapter)

Speaker: James King, Chief/Information Resources and Services Branch

Date/Time: Friday November 13 2015, 12-1 pm (ET)

Cost: FREE

Description: Custom Information Solutions at the National Institutes of Health. For details, please visit http://it.sla.org/2015/09/webinar-november-13-custom-information-solutions-at-the-national-institutes-of-health/

Register now: https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/6663220053687537153

November 16 — SLA New England 2016 Spring Program Survey Closes

SLA New England wants members’ input on our 2016 Spring Program. Please complete this brief survey http://goo.gl/forms/iKOrZzcERy by Monday, November 16th.

December 4 — Deadline for submitting contributed paper proposals for SLA 2016

Submit your abstracts of original research by December 4 for presenting at next year’s annual conference in Philadelphia.

For more details, visit http://www.sla.org/got-research-share-it-at-sla-2016/

December 8 — Save the date for SLA New England Annual Business Meeting

Our annual business meeting for 2015 will be held the evening of Tuesday, December 8 in the Boston-area. More details to come!

If you would like to volunteer to help with the event, please contact chapter president Stefanie Maclin-Hurd <srmaclin@gmail.com>

December 9 — SLA@Simmons presents ResumeX – Resume Reviewers Needed

Date/Time: Wednesday, December 9 / 5:00pm – 7:00pm
Location: Simmons School of Management

ResumeX is a career development workshop in which LIS professionals review current graduate students’ resumes and cover letters, offering constructive feedback for improvement. **SLA@Simmons is looking for volunteers to review resumes** and work with attendees as they prepare for job interviews. One hour and two hour time slots are available.

Contact Katherine Glasoe or Mason Fields <sla@simmons.edu> if you are interested in volunteering.

Follow us on Twitter @SLANewEngland and join us on LinkedIn.
November 2015: News & Upcoming Events

November 9, 2015 Categories: News & Notes

On a recurring basis, we will post updates and a list of upcoming SLA and SLA New England events. If you have any news and events to share, send them to slanewengland@gmail.com.

News and Events

- 11/10 – SLA New England co-sponsored webinar: How to Manage Your Local Node In A Global Workplace
- 11/12 – 2015 SLA Virtual Conference
- 11/13 – SLA IT & DC/SLA Webinar: Custom Information Solutions at the National Institutes of Health
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November 12 — 2015 Virtual Conference

Take the lead without taking leave when you attend the SLA 2015 Virtual Conference!
Scheduled for November 12, the virtual conference features some of the most popular sessions at SLA 2015 in Boston. See more at: https://www.sla.org/learn/2015-virtual-conference

November 13 — Webinar: Custom Information Solutions at the National Institutes of Health (hosted by IT Division and co-sponsored by DC/SLA Chapter)

Speaker: James King, Chief/Information Resources and Services Branch

Date/Time: Friday November 13 2015, 12-1 pm (ET)

Cost: FREE

Description: Custom Information Solutions at the National Institutes of Health. For details, please visit http://it.sla.org/2015/09/webinar-november-13-custom-information-solutions-at-the-national-institutes-of-health/

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Contact Katherine Glasoe or Mason Fields <sla@simmons.edu> if you are interested in volunteering.

Follow us on Twitter @SLANewEngland and join us on LinkedIn.
Recognize an Outstanding Chapter Volunteer! Accepting Nominations for 2015 Annual Chapter Awards

November 10, 2015 Categories: Awards & Recognition, News & Notes

Praise Your Peers for a Job Well Done! Nominate a Chapter Member by Sunday, November 22nd!

SLA New England invites you to submit nominations to recognize the outstanding contributions and achievements of your fellow chapter members who worked really, really hard on your behalf, both behind-the-scenes and/or front-and-center, during 2015.

SLA New England Award Nominations: Nominations are Being Accepted for The Following Three Awards

- **Chapter Achievement Award:** Recognize a chapter member for outstanding committee work, performance in office, or execution of event-related duties during this program year.
- **Distinguished Service Award:** Recognize a chapter member for a sustained record of supporting chapter activities over the years. These may be for service on one or more committees, by holding various offices, or for managing different events, that when considered cumulatively, have notably furthered the life of the chapter.
- **Special Recognition Award:** Recognize a longstanding chapter members as they cap their careers and approach a well-deserved retirement, in recognition of what they have done or meant to the chapter.

How to Nominate Someone

- Any SLA New England member can nominate another member(s) for an award.
- Nominations need not be overly formal in tone, but should give enough detail to allow committee members to make a reasonably fair comparison among nominees.
- Submit your nomination via: https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/slaneawards2015

Honorees will be announced at the Annual Business Meeting on Tuesday, December 8th.

SLA New England Awards Committee

Khalilah Gambrell, Chair
Jerry O’Connor-Fix
Mary Purdey
Jess Wallis
Barbara Williams
2015 Annual Business Meeting and Holiday Party

November 12, 2015 Categories: Awards & Recognition, News & Notes, Programs

Come one, come all! The clocks have changed, and the nights are getting longer, and it is time for the event we are all looking forward to: SLA New England’s Annual Business Meeting.

And we have a special in-person treat this year! SLA Hall of Famer and SLA Fellow, who is also Past SLA President and Past Chapter President, Ethel Salonen will be presenting on her panel from the 2015 Annual Conference, a recap of MITRE’s Knowledge Driven Enterprise. We will hear how The MITRE Corporation is driving knowledge by ensuring that KM is in all workflows; the KM is enabling the extended enterprise; that actionable knowledge, intelligence and resources are appropriately exploited; and that the end result are enhanced products and outcomes.

This is a great opportunity to learn more about Knowledge Management in a real-time enterprise. Dinner will be served during this special talk.

Thank you to Springer for sponsoring our event!

Date
Tuesday, December 8, 2015

Time
6:00 -6:30pm: Registration
6:30 -7:30pm: Annual Business Meeting and Awards presentation
7:30pm – END: Ethel Salonen’s Talk on “MITRE’s Knowledge Driven Enterprise” and Dinner

Location
Elephant Walk, 2067 Massachusetts Ave, Cambridge, MA. Close to Porter Square.

Public Transport and Parking
Easy access from the MBTA Red Line at Porter Square and plenty of free parking is available behind the building after 5pm.

Menu

Elephant Walk is a Cambodian-French fusion restaurant. Attendees will choose from a dinner prix-fixe menu. Vegetarian/Vegan and Gluten-free options available.

Cost
Non-Member: $50
Member: $35
Student/Unemployed/Retired: $25
2015 Award Recipient: FREE
2015 Stipend Recipient: FREE

Please RSVP by Tuesday, December 1, 2015
Reserve your seat!

Contact Stefanie Maclin-Hurd (smaclin@gmail.com)
Vote for the 2016 Executive Board!

November 24, 2015 Categories: News & Notes

The Nominating Committee is pleased to announce the slate of candidates for President-elect, Treasurer, and Director of Strategic Planning for the Special Libraries Association New England Chapter Executive Board. The officers will be presented at the Annual Business Meeting on December 8, 2015.

Please cast your vote for the candidates at this link by the end of day on Monday, November 30.

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SLANE2016slate

Candidate for President-elect: Joy McNally Brandow

Joy McNally Brandow

Joy McNally Brandow has been a member of SLA since 2005 and joined the Chapter board in 2015 as Director of Communications. Currently, she is a solo librarian at the Union of Concerned Scientists in Cambridge, Mass. She was previously active in the Engineering division of SLA, but with her new role at UCS has moved to the Food, Agriculture & Nutrition division.

As the Chapter’s Director of Communications, Joy has worked to engage a network of volunteers to create and share content that makes the Chapter feel smaller (reintroducing features such as the member and library profile series), focus on career development through regular Thursday job hunting/professional development tweets, working with the employment chair to develop the “Jobs Update” email, moving photo contests to the website (enabling non-Facebook users to participate), and working with the webmaster to seek updated plug-ins and review of the architecture. As president-elect, she will bring her enthusiasm for identifying and meeting the needs of the Chapter to program planning and professional development.

Candidate for Treasurer: Bob Kowalski

Bob Kowalski

Bob Kowalski has been a member of SLA since 1995. Bob joined the Boston (now New England) chapter that same year and the PHT (Pharmaceutical & Health Technology) shortly after. Currently, Bob is working at Pfizer in Andover, MA. Bob has been active in the PHT division of SLA, including serving on the board as Treasurer from 2006-2009.

Candidate for Director of Strategic Planning: Nancy Burt

Nancy Burt

Nancy Burt has been a member of SLA since 2008 and served as Boston Chapter President in 2011. Currently, Nancy is working at Fidelity Investments in Boston, MA. Nancy is also a member of the B&F Division.

As Chapter President, Nancy presided over the chapter name change from SLA Boston to SLA New England. She also engaged volunteers to create a strong executive board and foster communication across the chapter.
With gratitude to all of the candidates for their willingness to run for officer positions, and to serve on this all-volunteer board.

A happy Thanksgiving to all.

Sincerely,

Leigh Montgomery

Immediate Past-President
December 2015: News & Upcoming Events

December 1, 2015 Categories: News & Notes

On a recurring basis, we will post updates and a list of upcoming SLA and SLA New England events. If you have any news and events to share, send them to slanewengland@gmail.com.

News and Events

- 12/3 – How to Promote Online Information Resources Webinar
- 12/4 – Web Chat with SLA President Jill Strand
- 12/4 – Deadline for SLA 2016 Contributed Paper Proposals
- 12/8 – SLA New England Annual Business Meeting & Holiday Party sponsored by Springer
- 12/11 – Deadline to nominate a SLA Member for a National Award
- 12/31 - Deadline to register for 2016 SLA Annual Conference at Super Saver rate

December 3 — How To Promote Online Information Resources Webinar

**Date/Time:** Thursday, December 03, 2015 / 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM ET  
**Cost:** Free

Pharmaceutical & Health Technology (PHT) Division and InfoDesk, will present complimentary webinar, “How To Promote Online Information Resources” on Thursday, December 3 at 10:00 a.m. EST. [Note: All registrants will receive access to slides and recording of the webinar, so please register even if you cannot attend]. Registration and additional details are available at [http://calendar.sla.org/index.php?eID=594](http://calendar.sla.org/index.php?eID=594)

December 4 — Web Chat with SLA President Jill Strand

**Date/Time:** Friday, December 04, 2015 / 2:00 PM – 3:00 PM ET  
**Registration:** [https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/2376670620682078977](https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/2376670620682078977)

SLA President Jill Strand will discuss a forthcoming initiative to create new educational content for SLA members and also share updates about SLA awards, the Leadership Boot Camp, and more.

Following her discussion, she will take questions from attendees. To ensure your question(s) is answered during the chat, send it to Tara Murray at secretary@sla.org.

December 4 — Deadline for submitting Contributed Paper Proposals for SLA 2016

Submit your abstracts of original research by December 4 for presenting at next year’s annual conference in Philadelphia.

For more details, visit [http://www.sla.org/got-research-share-it-at-sla-2016/](http://www.sla.org/got-research-share-it-at-sla-2016/)

December 8 — SLA New England Annual Business Meeting & Holiday Party Sponsored by Springer

**Date/Time:** Tuesday, December 8 / 6:00 pm ET  
**Location:** Elephant Walk, 2067 Massachusetts Ave, Cambridge, MA. Close to Porter Square  
**Cost:** Non-member ($50), Members ($35), Students/Retired/Unemployed ($25)

Come join us for our Annual Business Meeting & Dinner! During dinner, we will be treated to a presentation by former SLA President, recent Hall of Famer, Ethel Salonen. Register by December 1st at [https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2015SLANEABM](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2015SLANEABM). We thank Springer for its generosity!

December 11 — Deadline to nominate a SLA Member for a National Award

**Date** Friday, December 11

Recognize a SLA member who is a rock star! Deadline to nominate members for the following honors concludes on December 11th: Fellows of SLA, SLA Rising Stars, Hall of Fame, John Cotton Dana, and Rose L. Vormelker. Details are available at [https://www.sla.org/get-involved/awards/](https://www.sla.org/get-involved/awards/).

December 31 — Deadline to register for 2016 Annual Conference at Super Saver rate


Follow us on Twitter @SLANewEngland and join us on LinkedIn.
Last Day to Register for the 2015 Annual Business Meeting & Holiday Party sponsored by Springer

December 1, 2015 Categories: News & Notes, Programs


SLA Hall of Famer and SLA Fellow, who is also Past SLA President and Past Chapter President, Ethel Salonen will be presenting on her panel from the 2015 Annual Conference, a recap of MITRE’s Knowledge Driven Enterprise. We will hear how The MITRE Corporation is driving knowledge by ensuring that KM is in all workflows; the KM is enabling the extended enterprise; that actionable knowledge, intelligence and resources are appropriately exploited; and that the end result are enhanced products and outcomes. This is a great opportunity to learn more about Knowledge Management in a real-time enterprise. Dinner will be served during this special talk.

At the event, we are also collecting donations of books, CDs, DVDs, and other media items for More than Words. Anyone who brings a donation will automatically be entered in our raffle to win some great prizes.

Questions, please contact Chapter President, Stefanie Maclin-Hurd (srmaclin@gmail.com)

We hope to see you for a great event and great food!

Special Thanks to Springer for its support of the event!
2015 SLA New England Chapter Award Winners Announced

December 13, 2015 Categories: Awards & Recognition, News & Notes

The SLA New England Awards Committee is pleased to announce this year’s chapter award winners! The recipients were recognized at last week’s Annual Business Meeting and Holiday Party.

**Chapter Achievement Award:** Joy McNally Brandow

As Communications Director, Joy was instrumental in ensuring chapter communications were available via listserv, website, and our social media outlets. As our newly elected President-Elect, she is poised to lead this chapter and continue our efforts to connect and communicate with all members.

**Distinguished Service Award:** Devon Mason McArdle and Brandy King

For over five years, Devon has held several leadership roles with SLA New England including Chapter President. Most recently, she stepped in as interim Treasurer and did an amazing job. She has been a tremendous asset to the chapter and we appreciate all she has done.

Brandy King, was the co-chair of the Local Arrangements Committee for this year’s Annual Conference in Boston. In this role, she led our fundraising and charitable efforts. Lastly, she led our content development efforts for the local arrangements website including a series of chapter member contributed posts called “Boston for...” Throughout the years, she has hosted several local dine arounds and presented at local events. We are especially proud that she is chair of the 2017 Annual Conference Advisory Council.

**Special Recognition Award:** Claudette Newhall

Claudette Newhall, has been active with the chapter serving on various committees and was an important contributor to this year’s Local Arrangements Committee. She recently retired as Library Director at Congregational Library. We wish her the very best and look forward to hearing about her latest travels!

Please join us in congratulating our award winners!

**SLA New England Awards Committee**

Khalilah Gambrell, Chair

Jerry O’Connor-Fix

Mary Purdey

Jess Wallis

Barbara Williams
2015 Annual Business Meeting: Incoming Chapter President Khalilah Gambrell’s remarks

December 13, 2015 Categories: News & Notes

The following are Khalilah Gambrell’s prepared remarks made at the December 8th Annual Business Meeting and Holiday Party.

Thank you all. I am very honored to be this chapter’s president. I appreciate the trust that folks have in me to lead this chapter during this critical time for SLA. I take the responsibilities of this role with a strong commitment to providing New England librarians and information professionals with professional development and networking opportunities.

I look forward to working with this board on developing these opportunities. We have a great board and the new additions of Bob and Nancy make next year very exciting. Yet the work cannot be done by the board alone. The continued success and viability of this chapter will take a community.

Next year, my goal is to engage as many members as possible in some capacity in developing quality programs, content, and opportunities to network with each other. It will be a team effort and I will be asking folks to step up and lead. If you want to develop leadership skills, this chapter provides ample opportunity in a safe setting. You are surrounded by mentors willing to help and answer any questions you might have.

So what is the plan for 2016? I like to provide a sneak peak.

2016 Sneak Preview

- Minimum of 4 Dine Rounds
- Spring Program
- Community Service Project
- Day on the Job
- SLA Annual Conference Meetup in Philly
- Minimum of 2 Book/Article Discussions
- Webinar on Contributed Papers/Presenting at SLA conference
- Fall Program
- Annual Business Meeting
- Revamped Website
- Increased Listserv Activity

How do we get there?

- Spring Program Committee (monthly meetings start December)
- Dine Around Hosts
- User Experience
- Book/Article Discussion Leader

More details will be made available soon! Thank you again for this opportunity!
Meet a Member: Paula Cohen, Knowledge for Impact (Cambridge, MA)

December 29, 2015 Categories: Member Profile, News & Notes

The following Member Profile interview was authored by SLA New England member, Zac Painter.

Paula Cohen has been the Chapter’s director of strategic planning since 2010 and spearheaded the Chapter’s first strategic plan. As her term ends this year, we wanted to ask her about the accomplishment and learn more about KM.

You recently completed your term as the first director of strategic planning. Would you give us some background on the strategic plan?

I was relatively new to Boston, and eager to take on an active role in the organization. This was an interesting time to begin thinking about strategic planning as the merger between chapters forming SLA New England had recently taken place, and the Boston chapter was nearing its 100th anniversary. The chapter had not had a Strategic Plan, and it was time. I have strong business experience, and was drawn to the role. With executive board member Dorothy Barr’s guidance and encouragement, the project got off the ground.

We were beginning from a blank slate rather than revising a Strategic Plan. While this was a tremendous challenge, we also had much freedom and flexibility to explore and carve out a direction and road map for the chapter, addressing the needs of members at the time and for the near future.

Tell us a little about the most memorable aspect of the Strategic Plan?

Five engaged, active, and thoughtful members stepped forward to form the committee. In addition to myself, the committee included Sharon Christenson, Peter Droese, Doug Southard, Daniel Singer, and Cindy Sullivan acted as an adviser to the committee. As a team we designed the planning process and work plan. Though none of us had previous experience on such a project, our diverse backgrounds—healthcare, law, management consulting—brought a unique perspective and valuable ideas to the process. One of the first tasks was to set up a Strategic Planning page on the chapter website to inform members and encourage any input or comment, and then updates were delivered at most board meetings. The analysis of the Member’s Survey was decisive in forming the goals and objectives. It was memorable how well we, as a group of working volunteers, kept up the momentum, and crafted a high quality product—a model experience in project management.

Though the chapter had thrived for 100 years without a formal Strategic Plan, after this significant endeavor I was determined that this not be filed away, gathering dust. After the Plan was completed and approved, I designed an implementation plan. It is probably time to reevaluate and update it after all of that work, but I feel very pleased with the project.

For me personally, new to Boston & the New England chapter at the time, and unclear on the direction my work would take, this was a great opportunity to gain a good overview of membership and their work; it provided visibility for me and a purpose to engage with the membership, attend events, learn the landscape, and I received the satisfaction of contributing to a meaningful project.

A great side benefit of a large-scale project like strategic planning is the opportunity to connect with members at other chapters who had been involved in their planning projects. It definitely broadens your horizons, and you benefit from their hindsight.

Here are a few key takeaways from the process:

- We did the research on process, procedures, best practices from other chapters.
- We tackled each phase with a set of ground rules that kept us on task, and engaged with consistent and frequent communication.
- When developing the strategic goals & objectives, member’s comments, interests, and needs guided our direction. We maintained a tone of transparency throughout, with the membership survey, as well as presentations at formal gatherings and reports to the board. We eagerly sought feedback and were rigorous with the analysis.
- And finally, we celebrated our achievement.

Now to your work as a KM professional, why is it so important to organizations, especially for non-profits?

The funding and support models of social sector/mission-driven organizations (both staff & financial) have traditionally been driven by programming and new initiatives, and information management (information services) has not figured prominently. The days of finding answers and filling information gaps from staff in the same office are over. As organizations expand staff, offerings, communities of supporters, operate through a series of collaborations and partnerships, and deliver services in far flung locations, it is critical to have ready access to the knowledge and information generated typically in siloed staff desktops.

Knowledge services serves as a bridge between management and employee needs, asking questions such as: can staff find information they need when they need it; do they reinvent the wheel with each new project; do they struggle to measure impacts and project results; are they losing institutional memory with staff transitions; do they have an on-boarding process so new staff are prepared for their new role; are they optimizing collaboration and communication technologies; does the organization preserve and enhance their crucial knowledge, and have a system in place to discard inactive information?

In the current environment requiring transparency and accountability, organizational management is seeking to demonstrate actual accomplishments and impact. Each assignment is unique and draws on interdisciplinary and rapidly evolving skills. In my role as an information provider serving the non-profit sector, I need to be flexible, listen well and provide solutions to the full range of information issues from information strategy to records management, project management, proposal development information audits, guidance on selecting appropriate technology, designing intranets and related information products, and guide the organization toward a culture of collaboration.

How has KM and Librarianship changed since you have been a part of the field?

They were seen as a business function. The notion of marketing our professional identity with a value proposition, pursuing continuing education in specialized areas, staying on top of new technologies and techniques to facilitate information management was not commonplace.
The world of the information professional has become increasingly entrepreneurial and interdisciplinary, requiring a broader skill and competency base. Technology is now the key enabler, many processes can be automated, and research resources are far more sophisticated and complex than in past years. Graduates of MLS programs have far more options, as data analysts, competitive intelligence experts, data security, or copyright specialists.

**What benefit does SLA provide to you? What should we be doing as a group?**

There is a big need for structured mentoring, so students and new professionals can get a perspective on the range of opportunities where they could fit best, and learn to comfortably engaging employers.

Early in my career SLA was really the only gathering place of its kind for info pros, so it had a unique value. The tremendous specialization and increasing complexity of the information field, coupled with time management pressures has, it seems to me, shifted members’ commitments towards professional associations. SLA has been really challenged in this rapidly evolving environment.

New to the Boston area and exploring opportunities and a direction for my work, SLA seemed like the natural resource and gathering place where I’d encounter a large group of kindred spirits. Connecting with these folks linked by similar training and interest in the world of information was a great launching board. It opens up horizons and serves as a collegial focus for people at every stage of their information careers.

There are so many people working in nontraditional roles with MLIS backgrounds. It is more critical than ever for chapters to find ways to address their interests, and stay on top of trends and issues. The field is more stratified, so now smaller organizations are competing with SLA, which makes it challenging. If we know what people want from an organization and provide volunteer programming, SLA will be in a great place going forward.

**About Member Profiles**

These profiles feature a cross-section of our chapter’s membership in an effort to showcase the diversity of the information profession and of special libraries. From corporate libraries to government agencies to academic libraries to library vendors and everything in between, this spot will have it all. Want to be featured? Know someone who stands out? Please send a note to slanewenglandATgmail.com with details.
2015: Taking Another Look Back

January 2, 2016 Categories: News & Notes

2015 was a great year for SLA New England. We hosted the Annual Conference for the first time in nearly 20 years. We also celebrated our 105th anniversary as a chapter. As we head in to 2016, I want to take the time to reflect and Thank All that helped to make 2015 a tremendous and successful year.

2015 Annual Conference

As the host chapter, the outpouring of members’ support was amazing. To see so many members volunteering for events, raffles, and donation drives was truly my biggest highlight as a chapter member. Special Thanks to Brandy King for co-chairing the Local Arrangements Committee with me and our fearless leader 2015 Annual Conference Advising Council Chair, Tracy Maleeff.

2015 Accomplishments

Day on the Job: About 40 students were matched and able to connect with local professionals

Volunteers: Over 55 members volunteered in 2015

Annual Conference stipends: Awarded 5 Stipends to chapter members

Northeast Animal Shelter (“one of New England’s largest non-profit, no-kill animal shelters”): conference attendees donated $390 to this organization.

RESPOND Inc (“New England’s first domestic violence agency and the second oldest in the nation”): tremendous outpouring of support as conference attendees donated toiletries and other goods to support this organization.

2015 Chapter Board

I want to thank last year’s board for an amazing year! I especially want to thank Past President Stefanie Maclin-Hurd for organizing a wonderful Annual Business Meeting and Holiday Party. Kudos on a great job!

Lastly, I want to thank Past-Past President Leigh Montgomery for her leadership in our successful role as host chapter for the 2015 Annual Conference.

Now on to a great and rewarding 2016!

Cheers!

Khalilah, 2016 Chapter President
SLA New England Volunteer Opportunities – Jan 2016

January 3, 2016 Categories: News & Notes

Several chapter volunteer opportunities are available to members. These opportunities provide you an opportunity to share your knowledge with your peers.

Volunteer Opportunities

**Book/Article Discussion Leader:** We want to encourage more in-person meetings. An idea for this year is to hold several Book/Article Discussion meetups. We need volunteers to lead these discussions. As a leader, you will help to select the book, set the discussion date/time, and location. If you want to lead but do not have a book/article in mind, do not worry we will provide recommendations.

**Diversity Committee Chair/Member:** As chair, you are responsible for promoting an annual scholarship and recipient selection. The chair will also provide updates (e.g. Twitter, Chapter Website, etc.) to the chapter regarding issues of diversity and inclusion.

**Employment Committee Chair/Member:** We are looking for someone to chair the Employment Committee beginning in February. This person will manage the successful newsletter along with posting employment opportunities.

**Writers:** There is so much knowledge and expertise in this chapter. We want to ensure that this information is shared not just with the chapter but throughout the SLA community. We are looking for writers to help us gather this content. We especially want to focus on the following:

- Member Profiles
- Career Profiles
- Member Benefits
- Marketing Q&A
- LinkedIn Q&A
- Sharepoint Q&A

Wow these opportunities sound really cool! How can I sign up?

If you are interested in any of these opportunities please send a note to slanewengland@gmail.com.
SLA New England: February 2016 Dine Around: Share Your Favorite Productivity App

January 7, 2016 Categories: Programs

Come join fellow information professionals in the Boston area at the Stoddard’s Fine Food & Ale for a casual after work cocktail and some friendly conversation and networking. During the dine around, we hope folks will share with each other their favorite productivity mobile apps.

**Date:** Tuesday, February 2nd

**Time:** 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm

**Location:** 48 Temple Place

**Direction:** [http://www.stoddardsfoodandale.com/](http://www.stoddardsfoodandale.com/)

**Cost:** Only cost is for what you eat or drink!

**RSVP:** By Sunday, January 31st at [https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2016WinterDA](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2016WinterDA)

**Contact:** Khalilah Gambrell (gambrell9899@gmail.com)
Ask a SLA New England Chapter Leader: What is the best book you read in 2015?

January 14, 2016 Categories: News & Notes

Looking for a good book to read? We asked SLA New England Chapter leaders the following question: What is the best book you read in 2015? Here's the impressive list.

All the Light We Cannot See by Anthony Doerr
Stefanie Maclin-Hurd, Past-President

Finding Nouf by Zoë Ferraris
Susan McGovern, Archivist

Gumption: Relighting the Torch of Freedom with America’s Gutsiest Troublemakers by Nick Offerman
Bob Kowalski, Treasurer

Mahabharata (an ancient Indian epic) by Krishna-Dwaipayana Vyasa
Gauri Govil, Webmaster

The Martian by Andy Weir
Mary Purdey, Secretary

Morris Micklewhite and the Tangerine Dress by Christine Baldacchino
Joy McNally Brandow, President-Elect

Packing for Mars: The Curious Science of Life in the Void by Mary Roach
Nancy Burt, Director – Strategic Planning

The Paris Wife by Paula McLain
Khalilah Gambrell, President

Rising Strong by Brené Brown
Sonya Durney, Employment Chair

Special Topics in Calamity Physics by Marisha Pessl
Eliana Fenyes, Vice President SLA@Simmons

Still Life with Breadcrumbs by Anna Quindlen
Devon McArdle, Treasurer Advisor

The Truth According to Us by Annie Barrows
Anna Rothman, Discussion Listserv Manager

What was the best book you read in 2015? Let us know by leaving a comment.

Want to share your love of reading with others? Become a Book/Article Discussion Leader. As a leader, you will help to select the book, set the discussion date/time, and location. To learn more about this opportunity, contact Chapter President Khalilah Gambrell, gambrell9899@gmail.com.
Ask a SLA New England Chapter Leader: Why are you a SLA Member?

February 2, 2016 Categories: News & Notes

We asked SLA New England Chapter and SLA@Simmons leaders this question: *Why are you a SLA member?* Read below about SLA’s impact to their professional and personal development. We also ask that you share with us why you are a member. Reply in the comments section, send us an email at slanewengland@gmail.com, or tweet why you value your SLA membership. If you are not a member then we hope you will join!

**Wendy Austin – Student Relations Chair:** I’m an SLA member because I think it’s a great way to network and know what other information professionals are doing. The conferences are inspirational and extremely relevant to my work and it’s a priceless opportunity for new ideas and concepts.

**Joy McNally Brandow – Chapter President Elect:** As a member of SLA, I have access to a large network of librarians working in industry, academia, and nonprofits that I am able to leverage for the researchers I support. By volunteering in the divisions and chapter I have made some great friendships, enabling me to grow as a librarian.

**Nancy Burt – Director, Strategic Planning and Past Chapter President:** I think SLA is critical for staying connected with information professionals and new ideas in the information management field. I like being part of that professional network.

**Nicole Cunha – Secretary of SLA@Simmons:** Jim Matarazzo. I took his Special Libraries class (at the time Organization and Management of Corporate Libraries), and fell in love with special libraries. Though I had already been working in an academic library, I had no idea what other opportunities lay beyond academia. Now I’m looking into the nonprofit sector, consulting, as well as remaining in the academic sphere. Choices!

**Eliana Fenyes –Vice President of SLA@Simmons:** I am a member of SLA because there is so much to learn from the professionals involved in the organization: the members of SLA are not only passionate about information, they are also specialists with immense subject expertise.

**Khalilah Gambrell – Chapter President:** SLA has allowed me to grow professionally and personally. With SLA, I am in a safe and supportive environment. My fellow members support each other and are willing to share their knowledge with each other. If I need something, I know there so many people that are willing to help. Someone is a phone call, email, or Tweet away 😉 Lastly it also provides me the opportunity to give back and support others as I have been.

**Gauri Govil – Chapter Webmaster and Past Communications Director:** I have been an SLA member since 2010 and I have never looked back since. I began as a volunteer posting library science and related technology news on various social media platforms for the chapter. I was then elected as the Communications Director which gave me further experience in learning and applying new technologies. One such example is, that I along with Khalilah Gambrell (President Elect 2016) worked on creating a new web presence for the chapter from a Wiki to a brand new WordPress website. After my two year tenure, I have been associated with the chapter as the webmaster. I have always enjoyed my membership with SLA as it has provided me the platform to network, be a part of the library science community in the region, and yes to acquire new skills.

**Bob Kowlaski – Chapter Treasurer:** SLA membership is all about networking and support. There are many ways to gain new skills these days, however networking with colleagues in similar roles, as well as having another forum to meet with our vendor partners, is what I’ve gotten the most out of from the organization.

**Stefanie Maclin-Hurd – Past Chapter President:** I am a SLA Member because I like the community and opportunities it provides me.

**Devon McArdle – Treasurer Advisor and Past Chapter President:** I am a member of SLA because of the wonderful & welcoming network of information professionals that make up its membership.

**Susan McGovern – Chapter Archivist:** I’ve been a member since graduating from Simmons, and SLA has afforded me the opportunity to meet and connect with information specialists from all areas of the profession. I particularly enjoy attending the Annual Conference when I can continue to network with others while furthering my career goals by attending sessions.

**Mary Purdey – Chapter Secretary:** I am an SLA member because of our Past President, Stefanie Maclin-Hurd. She told me about her involvement in the New England chapter of the SLA, and it sounded pretty interesting, so I became a member.

**Anna Rothman – Discussion Listserv Manager:** I am a SLA member because of all of the invaluable opportunities to meet and swap stories with other librarians who work in nontraditional library settings.
CFP: 2016 Spring Project Night

February 9, 2016 Categories: Programs

Are you working on a new project and need feedback or assistance from peers? Have you completed a project and want to share the results? If so, we encourage you to sign up to present at our first project night event in late April in the Boston area.

**Format:** Up to 4 people will present their projects. Presenters will be given 10 minutes, while attendees will provide support and feedback by sharing their experiences and knowledge for 10 minutes. After all presentations are completed, we will have breakout sessions where presenters and attendees can discuss the projects in-depth.

Projects should pertain to these **topics**:
- User Experience
- Data Analytics
- Competitive Intelligence
- Marketing/Promotion

**Event Date:** mid/late April – Thursday 6pm – 8pm

**Presenters:** If you are interested in presenting, please email your name, a brief description of your project, and whether your project is complete/in progress to Joy McNally at <jmcnallybrandow@ATgmail.com>.

**Deadline:** Friday, February 26

Selected presenters will be notified by Monday, March 7.
March Dine-Around (Cambridge)

February 12, 2016 Categories: News & Notes

Come join fellow information professionals in the Cambridge area at Christopher’s for a casual after work cocktail and some friendly conversation and networking. During the dine around, we hope folks will share their storytelling tips. If you have time, read this HBR article, Telling Tales [https://hbr.org/2004/05/telling-tales](https://hbr.org/2004/05/telling-tales).

**Host:** Joy McNally Brandow  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 9, 2016  
**Time:** 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm  
**Location:** Christopher’s ([http://christopherscambridge.com/](http://christopherscambridge.com/))  
1920 Mass Ave., Cambridge  
Public Transportation Options: Porter Square Commuter Rail and Subway Station and Multiple bus lines  
**Cost:** Only what you eat and drink

**RSVP** by Friday, March 4, 2016

**Register:** [https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BF259VL](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BF259VL)
Karen Frenchu: My Top 3 SLA Membership Benefits

February 14, 2016 Categories: News & Notes
Karen Frenchu, a SLA New England member, provided her list of top 3 membership benefits. If you have questions/comments feel free to reach Karen on LinkedIn or Twitter.

The Solo Librarians Division Discussion List

I spent three years as a solo librarian. It’s a role that guarantees you variety in your responsibilities and in your day-to-day experience — but it seriously limits your chances of learning the latest reference tricks at the coffee machine. Fortunately for me, the SLA Solo Division has an active discussion list full of peers who are looking to balance metrics, budgeting, and subscription renewals with the literature search they’ve promised to get out the door by Tuesday.

I have a tendency to be a lurker in online communities (and possibly at coffee machines), and the solo discussion list is a great place to “listen in” on the latest library conversations. Given that, when I say the discussion list is my go-to for hashing out topics such as how to calculate return on investment or the best sources of grey literature, that says a lot about how welcoming (and helpful!) the solo division has been.

NB: As Reading Rainbow teaches us, “you don’t have to take my word for it”: the discussion list is free for SLA members — even those who aren’t a part of the solo division.

SLA’s List of Competencies

I’m sure I’m not the only one who’s been hearing — and campaigning— about how transferable our skill-set is. Anyone who’s ever switched sectors (or tried to explain why, exactly, you needed that MLS degree) can tell you that being able to put those skills into the right context is key for explaining just what it is we do. SLA’s list of Competencies for Information Professionals of the 21st Century provides a great overview of what information professionals bring to the table to make sure their clients and their wider communities have access to the best information available.

In addition to helping me communicate my role clearly, this list has been a great tool for helping me explore where I’d like to go next. As I brainstorm professional development goals, the overview of different skills (and especially the applied scenarios) help me find areas of interest that also offer concrete goals for my skill set and my library.

NB: I understand a task force is in the process of updating this list; SLA members can check out a draft of the revisions here.

The People (of course!)

I’ve found professional colleagues, personal advice, and a chance to vehemently debate the latest library phenomena (not to mention some of my very favorite twitter accounts) through the SLA. While we share a number of interests and values, special librarians are a diverse crowd in terms of viewpoints and professional experiences, leading to insightful — and lively — conversations no matter what the venue.

From dine rounds and conferences to listservs and trivia tournaments, SLA offers all sorts of ways to connect to colleagues with similar interests. No matter what your schedule or budget looks like, you can find an opportunity to talk shop (or baseball!) with another Information Professional.

NB: Another benefit to the friendly nature of SLA: if you’re not a member, but you’re considering becoming one (or if you’re new and want some back-up) see if you can tag along with someone to a dine around or another informal event.
Come join fellow information professionals in the Massachusetts North Shore area at the Mandarin Reading for top notch Chinese and Japanese cuisine, friendly conversation, and networking.

**Host:** Nancy Burt, Past Chapter President and current Director of Strategic Planning

**Date:** Thursday, March 31, 2016

**Time:** 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm

**Location:** Mandarin Reading (http://www.mandarinreading.com), 296 Salem Street, Reading MA

**Cost:** Only what you eat and drink

Meet the 2016 SLA New England Chapter Officers

February 28, 2016 Categories: Member Profile, News & Notes

Khalilah Gambrell – Chapter President. Khalilah Gambrell, MA, MLS, is currently the Senior Technical Product Manager of eCommerce at EBSCO Information Services. She has a MA in History from Boston College and MLS from Simmons College School of Library and Information Science (SLIS). She was the SLA New England Chapter President in 2012 and served on the 2015 Annual Conference Advisory Council.

Joy McNally Brandow – Chapter President Elect. Joy McNally Brandow has been a member of SLA since 2005 and joined the Chapter board in 2015 as Director of Communications. She has been active in the Engineering division and now the Food, Agriculture & Nutrition division. Currently, she is a solo librarian at the Union of Concerned Scientists (Cambridge, MA). She has worked previously at engineering/insurance, academic, and public libraries. Joy holds a dual degree in History and Archives management from Simmons. Joy lives in Boston with her librarian husband and daughter.

Stefanie Maclin-Hurd – Past Chapter President. Stefanie Maclin-Hurd is a former archivist, has since moved into working with electronic resources, metadata, and catalog schemas. She has experience in academic, corporate, and special libraries. When she is not being a librarian, she enjoys knitting (and occasionally crocheting and sewing), reading, and binge-watching things on Netflix and Hulu, often while also knitting.

Bob Kowlaski – Chapter Treasurer. Bob Kowalski has been a member of SLA since 1995. Bob joined the Boston (now New England) chapter that same year and the PHT (Pharmaceutical & Health Technology) shortly after. Currently, Bob is working at Pfizer in Andover, MA. Bob has been active in the PHT division of SLA, including serving on the board as Treasurer from 2006-2009.

Nancy Burt – Director, Strategic Planning and Past Chapter President. Nancy Burt has been a member of SLA since 2008 and served as Boston Chapter.
President in 2011. Currently, Nancy is a Senior Manager, System and Content Integration at Fidelity Investments in Boston, MA. Nancy is also a member of the B&F Division. As Chapter President, Nancy presided over the chapter name change from SLA Boston to SLA New England. She also engaged volunteers to create a strong executive board and foster communication across the chapter.

Mary Purdey – Chapter Secretary. Mary grew up in New Jersey and moved to the Boston area in 2004 to attend college. She graduated from Boston University with a Bachelor’s degree in Journalism and from Simmons College with a Master’s degree in Library and Information Science. She has volunteered at the Thomas Crane Public Library in Quincy, and at Rosie’s Place in Boston. She has also worked at Wheelock College, in their Earl Center for Learning and Innovation. Some of her interests include cooking, baking, playing Scrabble, science fiction movies, and the show “Top Chef” on Bravo. Two of her life goals are to visit all 50 states in the U.S., and to go on a cross country road trip.
Meet the 2016 SLA New England Advisory Board

February 28, 2016 Categories: Member Profile, News & Notes

SLA New England Chapter has a wonderful group of volunteers that support the success of the chapter. We want to highlight some of the members of the Chapter Advisory Board. If you are interested in volunteering and working with one of these members, please email slanewengland@gmail.com.

Wendy Austin – Student Relations Committee Chair. Wendy Austin has been with Decision Resources Group (DRG) since July 2015, acting as manager of Information Resources. In her role, Wendy manages the Knowledge Management Center, along with its resources and daily operations, and oversees the Secondary Market Research (SMR) team in their Bangalore office. Prior to working at DRG, Wendy was the User Services Librarian at the Charles Stark Draper Laboratory (Cambridge, MA). Wendy has a Bachelor’s degree in Anthropology and History from the University of Massachusetts at Boston and a Master’s Degree in Library and Information Studies from Florida State University.

Paula Cohen – Membership Committee Chair. View member profile

Gauri Govil – Chapter Webmaster. Gauri has a MLS from the University of North Texas. Before moving to Boston, she was an Information Technology Librarian/Lecturer at Texas A&M University Medical Sciences Library. Since she moved to Boston, she has been involved with SLA New England serving as Communications Director (2011-2012) and webmaster (2013 – present). She was also a Digital Services Librarian at Franklin W. Olin College of Engineering (Needham, MA). Currently, Gauri is a proud homemaker and mother of two beautiful daughters.

Devon McArdle – Treasurer Advisor and Past Chapter President. Devon McArdle has been an SLA member since 2010 and has been honored to serve on the SLA New England Board first as a Student Relations Chair, then President, and Interim Treasurer over the last 5 years. She is currently an e-Learning Specialist with EBSCO but has also worked as a reference & document delivery librarian in a corporate environment and as an instruction librarian in an academic setting.
Susan McGovern – Chapter Archivist. After graduating from Simmons GSLIS with a concentration in Archival Management, I began my career as an archivist at a landscape architecture firm, moving on to content and data management roles at KPMG LLP and Fidelity Investments. My most recent archivist role was with the Landmarks Commission for the City of Boston where I organized and tagged documents to be scanned for public online access.

Anna Rothman – Discussion Listserv Manager. Anna Rothman is a Senior Information Specialist at Vertex Pharmaceuticals. She has a MLIS from the University of Rhode Island, and is proud to be a lifelong New Englander.
Learning by stepping outside the library

March 6, 2016 Categories: News & Notes
By Sonya Durney, Business and Government Team Leader, Portland Public Library (Portland, ME)

Each year, Mainebiz hosts a full-day conference with opportunities to learn and network. I had the great pleasure of both attending the conference and of sitting on a panel at the Mainebiz Momentum Convention. The topic of discussion for our panel was “Growing Your Business: Free Tools and Time Tested Strategies”. Other panelists were Brian Rahill, CEO and founder of RainStorm, Inc. and Alex Steed, partner at Knack Factory, as well as a columnist and blogger at The Bangor Daily News. A crowd of sixty five attendees gathered to hear what we had to say.

Brian gave a solid overview of a variety of free Google Tools (Trends, Search Console, Analytics and My Business) and explained how these would help you grow your business. He also talked a bit about how Google Ad Words (not quite free) can help you get to the top of Google searches quickly. These are all definitely resources I will be making sure library patrons are aware of when we are discussing SEO (search engine optimization) and marketing strategies for their businesses.

Alex gave a lively talk on how creative and narrative content, particularly video content, can be used as a means of getting your business and services in front of prospective clients and/or customers. He highlighted the importance of creating content, not necessarily always for a project you are working on, but simply as a means to engage audiences. He shared a fantastic video his team created at the Fryeburg Fair. This was a great reminder to me, that one of my goals is to create video tutorials highlighting how Library resources can assist folks with their business ideas and planning. It also made me think about the importance of creating lively content via other media (newsletters, social media etc.) that is interesting and informative.

"I Grew Up Here" by Jen Michaud, Timber Sports Competitor + Poet || KNACK FACTORY from Knack Factory

During my talk, I was able to share some of the resources that the Portland Public Library offers that would be helpful to those looking to grow their business. Many people are not aware of all of the business (and other) resources that public libraries offer these days. It is definitely worth checking in with your local library to see what tools are available. One of my favorite things about my job when folks say, “I did not know I can do that with my library card”. Yes, you can! A few attendees have followed up and requested that a Library staff member visit their organization to train staff members on using Library resources.

ReferenceUSA is one of the resources I shared. Using this resource you can identify potential B2B clients, competition and potential consumer clients. I use it numerous times per day in my work.

I also highlighted DemographicsNOW and discussed how one can use this resource to size your market. This is useful not only to entrepreneurs but also for businesses trying to decide in which direction to grow.

To learn more about other online, business resources offered by PPL, check out this Prezi. At the end of the session, I had the opportunity to sign people up for library cards. I was pleasantly surprised by the crowd that gathered, requesting cards.

All these people, no joke, are lined up to sign up for @PortPublicLibME cards. Really! #moco2015 pic.twitter.com/uV4iOYuzyU


I also had the opportunity to sit in on other sessions. I learned about “Creating, Staffing and Managing Internships” which provided great tips on how to present and manage internship opportunities at your organization. The keynote speakers were the owners of Maine-based Otto’s Pizza (sidenote: if you have not tried Otto’s, you should! I highly recommend the Mushroom, Ricotta and Herb pie.). They started out as a small, local business and have quickly expanded to ten location and 325 employees. They offered three pieces of advice to the attendees. “Plan carefully, recheck the plan, and accept that life will not always follow the plan. Start small and stay that way until you are ready to grow. And, stay true to your dream.” Good advice for would-be restaurant owners and just all around good advice for those marketing their projects.

I would definitely recommend attending the Mainebiz Momentum Conference to anyone who is able to make the trip. It truly was a day full of opportunities to learn and network. In addition, I also recommend stepping outside of your usual circle of conferences to see what else is out there, meet new people, see what trends might be hot in other fields that are relevant to our work as librarians and keep on learning! Of course, I also recommend getting to as many library conferences as possible!
SLA 2016: Professional Development Scholarship

March 7, 2016 Categories: Awards & Recognition, Professional Development, Stipends

SLA New England is offering a stipend of up-to $1,000 for a member to attend the Annual Conference. The scholarship is open to applicants that meet the following criteria:

- An active SLA New England member
- Completed an LIS program prior to or anticipated by Spring 2016
- Who has not previously received a scholarship or stipend from SLA New England

While this is open to all members, those who are between jobs or working less than 20 hours weekly are strongly encouraged to apply.

The award may be applied to the conference registration fee, transportation or lodging costs. After the conference, the recipient will write a post reflecting on their experiences for the Chapter website.

For additional details, please review the application instructions. The deadline to apply for the scholarship is April 16. Decisions will be made by and a winner notified on April 23, to take advantage of Early-Bird registration pricing.

If you have questions, email Stefanie Maclin-Hurd, SLA New England Past-President at srmaclinATgmail.com

Photo: LOVE Philly by Gene Tobia/Flickr
May 4 Dine-Around (Glastonbury, CT)

March 18, 2016 Categories: News & Notes

Join Connecticut members of SLA New England for a dine-around as we discuss where we have all been since we last met; where we hope to be in the future; and our role in SLA New England’s growth.

SLA New England will pay for the appetizers; we are responsible for our own dinners.

Host: Ellen Cartledge-Janpol

Date: Wednesday, May 4

Time: 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm

Location: Bricco’s Restaurant, Eric Town Square, 124 Hebron Ave., Glastonbury, CT

RSVP by April 25 to Ellen Cartledge-Janpol at ecartledgeATjfs hartford.org

If you have any questions or comments, please contact Ellen at the above e-mail or call 860-236-1927, ext. 7120.
Game on: what it takes to establish, develop and maintain a library game collection

March 23, 2016 Categories: Programs

Game Collections in libraries are growing in popularity not just in academics but in public and special libraries due to the increase in number and variety of games available for both entertainment and education. We have the wonderful opportunity to discuss the “ins and outs” of developing and maintaining a game collection with Heather McCann, Interdisciplinary Science Librarian at Hampshire College’s Harold F. Johnson Library. She will give us an overview of the collection development process, her collaboration with game development faculty and the challenges of providing access to items that often have over 100 pieces.

Concluding discussion, attendees will have the opportunity to have lunch and play games.

Location: Hampshire College – Harold F. Johnson Library, 893 West St, Amherst, MA

Directions: https://www.hampshire.edu/discover-hampshire/directions-to-hampshire-college

Date/Time: Friday, April 22, 2016 / 10:30 am – 1:00 pm
10:30 – 11:00 Registration
11:00 – 11:30 Presentation
11:30 – 11:45 Q&A
11:45 Lunch and Let the Games Begin

Cost: No Fee

RSVP by: Wednesday, April 20th at https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/gamecollectionSLANE

Questions/Contact: Khalilah Gambrell, Chapter President, gambrell9899@gmail.com
Friday, May 6th Program: YBP Tour and Lunch (Contoocook, New Hampshire)

April 4, 2016 Categories: Programs

YBP (http://ybp.com/) has been one of the top solutions for academic libraries’ print and electronic books acquisition, collection development, and technical service needs. Friday, May 6th we will tour YBP headquarters in Contoocook, New Hampshire including book warehouse, profilers in action, and general discussion on GOBI (http://gobi3.com/Pages/Login.aspx), popular tool used by libraries to select and purchase print books and eBooks.

At the conclusion of the tour and discussion, we encourage folks to join us at the Everyday Cafe & Pub (http://www.theeverydaycafeandpub.com/) for lunch.

Please note: we are limiting attendees to 10.

Date/Time: Friday, May 6th from 10am – 12pm then lunch

Location: YBP Headquarters, YBP Library Services, 999 Maple Street, Contoocook, NH 03229

Directions: http://www.ybp.com/directions.html

Fee: No Cost for tour/discussion. Attendee will pay for own lunch.

RSVP: Please email me (Khalilah) at gambrell9899@gmail.com by Friday, April 29. Please provide me your contact information and if you will be attending lunch. Note, we are limiting attendance to 10 people so please sign up very soon. Preference will be given to SLA New England members. Also if your plans change, please let us know as soon as possible so we can ensure someone else can attend.

Contact: Khalilah Gambrell – gambrell9899@gmail.com
Apply for the Student Travel Stipend to attend SLA 2016

April 7, 2016 Categories: News & Notes, Stipends

SLA New England is pleased to announce a $1500 stipend available to a current MLS student in the New England area to attend the 2016 SLA Annual Conference, being held in Philadelphia.

The Special Libraries Association (SLA) is a nonprofit global organization for innovative information professionals and their strategic partners. SLA serves more than 7,000 members in 75 countries in the information profession, including corporate, academic, and government information specialists. SLA promotes and strengthens its members through learning, advocacy, and networking initiatives.

Why attend the SLA Annual Conference?

- Networking opportunities--share your experiences and learn from other information professionals.
- Over 200 events, including educational programs, networking events, receptions, and tours.
- The latest technologies from leading industry partners, all under one roof in the INFO-EXPO Hall.

SLA New England Student Travel Stipend Award Criteria

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Be currently enrolled as a degree candidate at an ALA-accredited academic program in Library and Information Science.
- Be a first time attendee of an SLA conference.

APPLICATION PROCESS:

Submit a document containing the following information/elements:

- Full name
- Academic affiliation: Institution and Program
- Start date of program; number of semesters and courses completed as of December 2015; and anticipated date of graduation
- Contact information, including mailing address, telephone, and email
- Other SLA division awards, if any, for which you are applying
- An essay of no more than 1 page (see details below), double-spaced

Submissions will be judged on the basis of originality and clarity as well as on inclusion of all required information. Neatness, spelling, grammar, and completion of all required information will count in judging.

ESSAY DESCRIPTION:

Write an essay of 1 page on one of the following topics:

1) Why should you attend the annual conference?
2) How do you plan to share what you learned with the New England community?

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATION SUBMISSION:

Saturday, April 30th, 2016

APPLICATION PROCESS:

Applications should be emailed as a single file attachment in Microsoft Word or PDF to Wendy Austin, SLA New England Student Relations Committee Chair, at the following email address: austin.wendy@gmail.com.

Please contact Wendy with questions about the application process.

POST AWARD:

Awardee(s) will write about his or her conference experience for posting on the SLA New England Website (http://newengland.sla1.org/).

Awardee(s) is encouraged to serve a one-year term as a member of the Student Relations Committee of the SLA New England Chapter (may be accomplished virtually, if the recipient is no longer a New England resident following graduation).

NOTIFICATION AND AWARD DISTRIBUTION:

Applicants will receive notification of award status in early May 2016.

The winners will make their own conference and registration arrangements and will receive prompt reimbursement for travel expenses after the conference by submitting travel receipts to the SLA New England treasurer. The award may be applied to SLA membership costs, SLA student conference registration fee, transportation, and lodging costs. Meals and incidental expenses are not covered.
SLA New England Statement on 2018 Conference

April 12, 2016 Categories: News & Notes

The following letter was submitted to the SLA New England and SLA Leadership listservs. On April 8, the New England chapter board passed a motion to oppose the NC anti-LGBT law and request SLA to reconsider the current 2018 Annual Conference location of Charlotte, NC.

We, the New England Chapter, very much thank the SLA Board for coming out against the recent passed law, HB2, in North Carolina. We also stand with the words already spoken by the New York and Philadelphia Chapters and Academic Division in urging the Board to please consider a new location for the 2018 Conference, currently scheduled to be held in Charlotte, NC.

The HB2 law, also known as the ‘bathroom law’, discriminates against members in the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender community. SLA’s principles explicitly states it is against any type of discrimination, and so by holding the 2018 conference in Charlotte, NC, not only are we counter-acting our own principles, we are telling these members of our SLA community they are not welcome at the conference. We believe the conference must be a safe environment for all.

In response to the potential argument that SLA has financial concerns, and may not be able to afford to pay the financial penalty for moving the conference location, we feel the organization has more to lose financially by holding the conference in North Carolina due to negative publicity. We ask the Board to please re-consider the location of the 2018 conference because of the risk of losing attendance, vendor sponsorship, and membership if the location continues to be held in North Carolina.

We also remind the Board that by moving the 2018 Conference location, this does not have to be viewed as a negative action. We understand this issue will not simply end if SLA decides to change venues or not, and needs to be continually and deliberately assessed. By taking this first step, SLA is able to reaffirm our commitment to being a welcoming and affirming community to all our members.

Thank you,
SLA New England Board
Khalilah Gambrell
Joy McNally Brandow
Stefanie Maclin-Hurd
Bob Kowalski
Mary Purdey
Nancy Burt
Wendy Austin
Paula Cohen
Devon McArdle
Susan McGovern
Leigh Montgomery
Anna Rothman
Christina Sirois
May 11 Dine-around (Quincy, MA)

April 20, 2016 Categories: Dine around, News & Notes

Come join fellow information professionals in the Boston area at Acapulco’s in Quincy Center for a casual after work margarita and some friendly conversation and networking.

**Host:** Edee Edwards (Taxonomy and Metadata Librarian, NFPA)

**Date:** Wednesday, May 11, 2016

**Time:** 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm

**Location:** Acapulco’s (1388 Hancock St., Quincy)
Quincy Center Commuter Rail and Subway Station and Multiple bus lines

**Cost:** Only what you eat and drink

**RSVP** by Friday, May 6, 2016 at [https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/9KQY3LZ](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/9KQY3LZ)
Rescheduled: YBP & GOBI Tour and Lunch Program to Friday, August 12th

May 2, 2016 Categories: Programs

Due to low registration, we are re-scheduling program from May 6th to August 12th.

YBP (http://ybp.com/) has been one of the top solutions for academic libraries’ print and electronic books acquisition, collection development, and technical service needs. Friday, August 12th we will tour YBP headquarters in Contoocook, New Hampshire including book warehouse, profilers in action, and general discussion on GOBI (http://gobi3.com/Pages/Login.aspx), popular tool used by libraries to select and purchase print books and eBooks.

At the conclusion of the tour and discussion, we encourage folks to join us at the Everyday Cafe & Pub (http://www.theeverydaycafeandpub.com/) for lunch. Please note: we are limiting attendees to 10.

Date/Time: Friday, August 12th from 10am – 12pm then lunch

Location: YBP Headquarters, YBP Library Services, 999 Maple Street, Contoocook, NH 03229

Directions: http://www.ybp.com/directions.html

Fee: No Cost for tour/discussion. Attendee will pay for own lunch.

RSVP: Please email me (Khalilah) at gambrell9899@gmail.com by Friday, August 5th. Please provide me your contact information and if you will be attending lunch. Note, we are limiting attendance to 10 people so please sign up very soon. Preference will be given to SLA New England members. Also if your plans change, please let us know as soon as possible so we can ensure someone else can attend.

Contact: Khalilah Gambrell – gambrell9899@gmail.com
Save the Date: Thursday, July 14th Lunch with SLA President-Elect Dee Magnoni in Portland, Maine

May 3, 2016 Categories: News & Notes, Programs

Mark your calendar! Thursday, July 14th from 11:30am-1:30pm, SLA New England will host a lunch with SLA President-Elect Dee Magnoni at the Unum corporate office in Portland, Maine.

More details will be provided in the upcoming weeks.
SLA New England & SLA@Simmons Dine Around: Wednesday, May 18th at the Yard House – Fenway

May 3, 2016 Categories: Dine around, Programs

Come join fellow information professionals and SLA@Simmons students at the Yard House for a casual after work cocktail and some friendly conversation and networking.

Host: Khalilah Gambrell, Chapter President

Date: Wednesday, May 18th

Time: 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Location: Yard House, 126 Brookline Avenue Boston, MA

Public Transportation Options – Subway: Fenway and Kenmore Green Line Stops

Public Transportation Options – Bus: 8, 19, 60, 65, 55, 57

Cost: Only what you eat and drink. Appetizers are on us!

RSVP by Monday, May 16th at https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SLANE051806DA

Contact: Khalilah Gambrell, gambrell9899@gmail.com
SLA New England to co-sponsor East Coast Chapters Reception at SLA Annual Conference

SLA New England will co-sponsor the East Coast Chapters Reception at this year’s SLA Annual Conference in Philadelphia. We hope to see you in Philadelphia!

**Date:** Monday, June 13th  
**Time:** 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM  
**Location:** Field House, 1150 Filbert Street (close to the Pennsylvania Convention Center)
The Dreaded Networking Season

May 27, 2016 Categories: News & Notes

By Victoria Lefevers, Lefevers Consulting (Boston, MA)

With the spring conference season well underway, I wanted to address the conversation around networking. “Networking” is a word that brings fear to the hearts of shy folks, and eye-rolling to the faces of basically everyone.

We all think we know what it means—join a professional society, volunteer for some organization, go to some after-work event with watered down drinks and the inevitable sales pitch. HBR recently added yet another article to their networking tag, calling out how networking makes many of us feel “dirty”. That description is entirely accurate, mostly because there are certain archetypes that some people fulfill, and those archetypes approach networking in a way that makes us reach for the hand sanitizer and re-think all our life choices.

- The job seeker: Desperately looking for employment by a specific (or any) company.
- The sales person: Only there to hawk their business services/products.
- The newbie: Trying to establish themselves in the field, shaking hands without discretion.
- The moocher: Just there for the free food/drinks.

The problem is that so many (read: most) networking events are FULL of people who seem to fulfill those archetypes. Even if we try to get past our first impressions, it’s incredibly difficult to find value in networking events where we are constantly on guard, trying to spot those folks and put them on our “to avoid” list. And as with most things in life, negative experiences can easily overshadow positive ones, so we begin to view networking, best case, as a chore; the worst case is that we avoid it completely.

Truth: I hate the word “networking”. It brings up visions of stale cookies and bad sandwiches, awkwardly eaten over stilted conversation and limp handshakes.

The word has also been usurped by online social networks like Facebook and LinkedIn, where people seem determined to rack up “friends” or “connections” like rings in Sonic the Hedgehog, lacking any real relationship or connection with most of the people they are tethered to. So many people use networking as a one-time-use tool, and I get it. They’ve compartmentalized the idea of networking as something to be used occasionally, or only when they need it—but therein lies the problem. If you’re an unused node in a network, you get forgotten over time, or you fail to truly connect with others in the first place.

I prefer the idea of community building—communities are fluid yet reliable, because they tend to be fairly well vetted and the participants are invested. And while networks are useful in a greater sense (“I know there’s someone in my network who has X skill, let me start exploring”), communities are far more useful on both a personal and professional level. Think about it. “Community” brings up notions of relationships—everything takes a village, right? Networking for the sake of networking is pointless—as is one-off networking. Don’t build a network for its own sake—build relationships and contribute to the enhancement of your community. A larger network will form from there.

For me, that means being part of the intelligence social scene. For others, that means finding others who want to parasail or be turtle handlers or whatever. That said, I was able to jump into the intel community because intelligence work is actually my second career; I learned a lot through the huge amount of mistakes I made trying to “network” in the first 10 years of my professional life. At any given point, I’m sure I fulfilled most of those 4 archetypes I listed, and in hindsight I’m also sure I was incredibly annoying and transparent about it. True “networking” is based in relationships, and relationships come down to all parties (1) wanting to be there and (2) getting needs fulfilled (and the two are inextricably linked). It’s not one-sided, and the quality of those relationships is only as good as you give.

So figure out what you can offer to your community, then worry about whether or not you’re getting what you need in return. And for goodness’ sake, don’t eat those terrible stale cookies that everyone has touched.

Questions? Comments? Find me at SLA 2016 or @vlefevers.
Schedule of SLA NE Members Presenting at 2016 SLA Annual Conference

June 5, 2016 Categories: Conferences, News & Notes

While finalizing your schedule for SLA 2016, don’t forget to check out the sessions of your fellow SLA New England members. Below is a schedule we’ve pulled together. (Thank you to everyone that submitted your info to the survey!) Click the session name for more details and to add to your conference schedule.

Saturday, June 11th
8:00 am – 12:00 pm | Project Management 101 for Librarians (Continuing Education) | Convention Center, Room 103-C | Presenter: Jennifer Swanson
8:00 am – 5:00 pm | Taxonomy Café (Continuing Education) | Convention Center, Room 102-A | Presenter: Heather Hedden

Sunday, June 12th
9:00 AM – 11:00 AM | Opening General Session and Awards Presentation (Celebrate Brandy, Jim, and Toby) | Convention Center, Ballroom B
1:30 PM – 3:00 PM | MASTER CLASS: Managing the Information Professional at Home: Competencies and Challenges of Remote Workers | Convention Center, Ballroom B | Presenter: Ethel Salonen
3:30 PM – 5:00 PM | What Good Is a Museum Library in the 21st Century? | Convention Center, Room 202-A | Presenter: Dorothy Barr

Monday, June 13th
8:00 – 9:30 am | Corporate Information Centers Section Breakfast | Marriott, Room 411 & 412 | Presenter: John Aubrey
10:00 AM – 10:20 AM | QUICK TAKE: Getting a Project Off on the Right Foot—5 Questions You Need to Ask | Convention Center, INFO-EXPO | Presenter: Fred Wergeles (@fredverageles)
12:00 PM – 1:30 PM | Teaching Data Literacy | Convention Center, Room 108-A | Presenter: Stefanie Maclin-Hurd (@srmaclin)
4:00 PM – 5:00 PM | MASTER CLASS: Surviving Your Next Merger (or Reorg) | Convention Center, Room 114 | Presenter: Ethel M. Salonen
7:00 PM – 9:00 PM | East Coast Chapters Reception | Field House, 1150 Filbert Street | Presenter: SLA New England (@slanewengland)

Tuesday, June 14th
7:30 AM – 9:30 AM | Find Your Niche: Preparing for New Areas in Librarianship | Convention Center, Room 108-A | Presenter: Christine Malinowski
8:00 AM – 9:30 AM | The Importance of “Soft Skills” in Intelligence Gathering and Practice | Convention Center, Room 201-A | Presenter: Fred Wergeles (@fredverageles)
8:00 AM – 9:30 AM | The Importance of “Soft Skills” in Intelligence Gathering and Practice | Convention Center, Room 201-A | Presenter: Victoria Lefevers (@vlefevers)
11:00 AM – 12:20 AM | QUICK TAKE: Top 10 Mistakes CI Practitioners Make in the Workplace | Convention Center, INFO-EXPO | Presenter: Victoria Lefevers (@vlefevers)
2016 SLA New England Student Travel Stipend Recipient: Amy Wilson

June 6, 2016 Categories: Awards & Recognition, Stipends

Congratulations to Amy Wilson for receiving the SLA New England Student Travel Stipend! Amy Wilson is a second year MLIS candidate at Simmons College in Boston, MA. In addition to her studies, she works full time as a records specialist at the law firm Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr. Her career focus is in legal librarianship and improving access to justice. She will be attending this year’s Annual Conference in Philadelphia.

About the SLA New England Student Travel Stipend
The stipend is given to a student enrolled as a degree candidate at an ALA-accredited academic program in Library and Information Science and a first time attendee of an SLA Annual Conference. The stipend is given to cover registration, transportation, food, and lodging expenses for attending the annual conference.
Effective Ways to Deal with Change: July 14th Lunchtime Discussion with Dee Magnoni in Portland, Maine

June 9, 2016 Categories: Programs

“Life is about not knowing, having to change, taking the moment and making the best of it, without knowing what’s going to happen next.” – Gilda Radner

Change is difficult. It is uncomfortable. It is constant. So how can one deal with this constant with a positive outlook? Join us on July 14th for lunch and a talk by Dee Magnoni, SLA President – Elect, on her experiences with change and her thoughts on how one can embrace change at the Unum Group office in Portland, Maine. Register for the lunch at https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/DeeLunchMaine

Special Thanks to member Jennifer Lanouette and Unum for hosting this SLA New England Event and providing desserts!

About the Presenter
Dee (@deemagnoni) is the current SLA President – Elect. She has held several leadership position within SLA including:

- Chapter President of SLA New England
- Chapter President Rhode Island
- SLA Fellow
- 2013 Rose Vormelker Award for mentoring.

Dee Magnoni is the Research Library Director at Los Alamos National Laboratory, where she leads open access and data initiatives. Dee previously worked in both business and engineering libraries within corporate America and academia. She received her MLS from SUNY-Albany and her BA from Lehigh University.

Location: Unum Group, 2211 Congress St. Building H03 Portland, Maine
Date/Time: Thursday July 14th (11:30 am – 1:30 pm) – Attendees must bring a photo ID.
11:30am – 12pm registration
12:00pm – 1:30pm Dee’s presentation and Lunch

Parking: There is plenty of parking including a garage

Directions: https://goo.gl/maps/PJ6HtR6zsHP2

Public/Shared Transportation Options

- Amtrak Downeaster: http://www.amtrakdowneaster.com/
- Bus – Concord Coach Lines: https://concordcoachlines.com/
- Carpooling: Please let us know if you need carpooling or can provide carpooling

RSVP by Friday, July 8th

Contact: Khalilah Gambrell, SLA New England Chapter President (gambrell9899@gmail.com)
SLA New England: July 27th Dine Around at Margaritas in Waltham, MA

July 11, 2016 Categories: Dine around, Programs

Join fellow information professionals in the Waltham area at Margaritas for friendly conversation, and networking.

Host: Caren Torrey, Associate R&D Librarian, Alkermes
Date: Wednesday, July 27, 2016
Time: 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm
Location: Margaritas Mexican Restaurant 211 Moody St, Waltham, MA
Cost: Only what you eat and drink. Appetizers are on SLA New England!


Have questions? Contact, Caren at carentorrey AT gmail.com
Join us in Southbridge (MA) for the SLA New England Fall Conference

July 31, 2016 Categories: Conferences, News & Notes

Building Skills, Creating Value

Friday, September 30, 2016

Southbridge Hotel & Conference Center | Southbridge, MA

We are returning to the Southbridge Hotel & Conference Center in Southbridge, Mass., for our annual fall conference.

The theme this year is “Building Skills, Creating Value” and the conference will feature Tracy Maleeff as our guest speaker in addition to sessions focusing on measuring value, working with stakeholders, and career transitions.

The Southbridge Hotel & Conference Center is conveniently located minutes from historic Sturbridge and less than an hour’s drive from Boston, Springfield, Hartford, CT, and Providence, RI. The Conference Center has ample parking and a carpooling website will be available to match drivers with riders in order to make the trip more pleasant and accessible.

Discover a peaceful New England setting at the Southbridge Hotel & Conference Center. Originally constructed as an optical factory, the Southbridge building has been beautifully restored and remodeled to include only the finest amenities. Those who choose to stay in the hotel, before or after our conference, will find comfortable, spacious rooms at a very affordable price. Hotel guests will be able to unwind in their modern fitness center, sauna, sports courts, steam room, hot tub and indoor pool.

Look for registration details soon!

http://newengland.sla1.org/?post-type=post&show_title=1&show_date=...
Save the Date: September 12th Wine Tasting at Gouveia Vineyards – Wallingford, CT

August 8, 2016 Categories: Dine around, Programs

Join us for a wine tasting event at the Gouveia Vineyards in Wallingford, CT on Monday, September 12th from 4:00pm to 6:00pm. The wine tasting consists of four pre-selected wines and one of our choice from the vineyard’s wine list. Attendees will receive a signature etched glass as a keepsake. Also attendees may go on self-guided tours of the vineyard.

About Gouveia Vineyards
“Our winery is located high atop 140 sun-kissed acres. Built of stone and old timbers. The Stone House winery and location command spectacular 360 degree panoramic views of lush woodland, open fields and over 32 acres of pristine vineyards. Bring food, family and friends to enjoy a glass of one of our 11 award winning wines.”

Date: Monday, September 12th
Time: 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm
Location: Gouveia Vineyards (www.gouveiavineyards.com) 1339 Whirlwind Hill Road, Wallingford, CT 06492. Will meet at the Stone House for the wine tasting.
Directions: http://www.gouveiavineyards.com/visit-us.html

Parking: Parking is free. Please park near the Stone House.

Cost: $7 (includes wine-tasting, keepsake, snacks, and self-guided tour)
Registration: will be available shortly.
Questions/Comments: Ellen Cartledge, ellen.cartledge@comcast.net, 860-470-3417 (office/home)
RSVP by: Friday, September 9th

Please note that: The vineyard does not allow folks to bring outside beverages (including water) on the property. If anyone is found with outside beverages, the entire party must leave the property. This is a restriction put upon the vineyard by their Farm Winery Permit. The vineyard has soda, coffee, tea, water and juice for sale.
RSVP for September 12th Wine Tasting at Gouveia Vineyards – Wallingford, CT

August 9, 2016 Categories: Dine around, News & Notes
Join SLA New England and co-sponsor Connecticut Library Consortium for a wine tasting event at the Gouveia Vineyards in Wallingford, CT on Monday, September 12th from 4:00pm to 6:00pm. The wine tasting consists of four pre-selected wines and one of our choice from the vineyard’s wine list. Attendees will receive a signature etched glass as a keepsake. Also attendees may go on self-guided tours of the vineyard. RSVP at https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Sep2016Vineyard.

About Gouveia Vineyards
“Our winery is located high atop 140 sun-kissed acres. Built of stone and old timbers. The Stone House winery and location command spectacular 360 degree panoramic views of lush woodland, open fields and over 32 acres of pristine vineyards. Bring food, family and friends to enjoy a glass of one of our 11 award winning wines.”

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Cost: $7 (includes wine-tasting, keepsake, snacks, and self-guided tour)
Accepted Payment Methods: PayPal/Cash at door
Directions: http://www.gouveiavineyards.com/visit-us.html
Parking: Parking is free. Please park near the Stone House.
Registration: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Sep2016Vineyard
Questions/Comments: Ellen Cartledge-Janpol, ellencartledge@comcast.net, 860-470-3417 (office/home)
RSVP by: Friday, September 9th
Please note that: The vineyard does not allow folks to bring outside beverages (including water) on the property. If anyone is found with outside beverages, the entire party must leave the property. This is a restriction put upon the vineyard by their Farm Winery Permit. The vineyard has soda, coffee, tea, water and juice for sale.
Register for the Fall Conference!

August 19, 2016 Categories: News & Notes

Building Skills, Creating Value

Friday, September 30, 2016

Southbridge Hotel & Conference Center | Southbridge, MA

Registration is now open!

We invite you to this year’s conference “Building Skills, Creating Value” with sessions from SLA New England members focusing on measuring value, working with stakeholders, and career transitions. Our keynote speaker for the conference is Tracy Z. Maleeff.

Tracy Z. Maleeff is the principal of Sherpa Intelligence, a research and social media consulting firm in the Philadelphia area. A former law librarian, Tracy is a long-time member of SLA and frequent presenter on topics ranging from advanced social media skills, networking, and information security basics. A contributed paper she co-authored with Leslie Hicks about professional networking was named “best in conference” in SLA 2015 in Boston. You can find Tracy at www.sherpaintel.com or on Twitter as @LibrarySherpa.

Registration:

SLA Members – $65
Students/Retired/Under-employed – $35
Non-members – $80

Sessions:
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<td>Keynote</td>
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<td>&quot;Networking As A Professional Skill&quot;</td>
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<td>&quot;Mindful Communication Techniques and Stress Reduction&quot;</td>
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<td>&quot;Smashing Silos – Expand Your Impact Harnessing Knowledge, Driving Collaboration, Sparking Innovation&quot;</td>
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<td>&quot;The Importance of Soft Skills in Intelligence Gathering and Practice&quot;</td>
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Participants are encouraged to continue networking at dinners in area restaurants.

Transportation:

The Conference Center is less than an hour’s drive from Boston, Springfield, Hartford, CT, and Providence, RI. Please visit our [carpooling](http://newengland.sla1.org/?post_type=post&show_title=1&show_date...) site to connect with other attendees for ride-sharing options.

About the location:

The Southbridge Hotel & Conference Center is conveniently located minutes from historic Sturbridge. Discover a peaceful New England setting at the Southbridge Hotel & Conference Center. Originally constructed as an optical factory, the Southbridge building has been beautifully restored and remodeled. The Conference Center has ample parking and an SLA New England [carpooling](http://newengland.sla1.org/?post_type=post&show_title=1&show_date...) site is available to match drivers with riders in order to make the trip more pleasant.
Attendees are welcome to **stay in the hotel**, before or after our conference, and will find comfortable, spacious rooms at a very affordable price. Hotel guests will be able to unwind in their modern fitness center, sauna, sports courts, steam room, hot tub and indoor pool. Or take advantage of the proximity to Old Sturbridge Village the following day.
Need your Manager’s approval to attend the Fall Conference?

September 12, 2016 Categories: News & Notes

Use the letter below, from Chapter member Donna Thompson, to help make your case for attending the Chapter’s Fall Conference on September 30. Simply copy and paste the text, tailor it to your specific environment, and send it to your manager.

Dear [Employer],

As you know, in today’s information- and innovation-intensive world, we have to be able to continually redefine ourselves to meet the challenges we face. That’s why I need your approval to attend the Special Libraries Association’s New England Fall Conference “Building Skills, Creating Value.”

The one day conference will be held on September 30 and will include many presentations and opportunities for networking with my New England SLA colleagues. Topics will include team building, leadership skills, social media and communication skills. The speakers include James Matarazzo, Ethel Salonen and Tracy Maleeff, all are well-known in the library and information science field.

If you give me the go-ahead—and I sincerely hope you will—you can expect me to return from the meeting with plenty of new ideas and insights I can put to work right away. Please let me know if you would like additional information, or visit the meeting’s website at http://newengland.sla1.org/archives/139807

Sincerely,

[Your Name]
Popularity of podcasts is growing. In June 2016, the Pew Research Center – Journalism & Media (http://www.journalism.org/2016/06/15/podcasting-fact-sheet) reported that based on a Edison Research survey, 36% of Americans have heard a podcast, a 13% increase from 2010. Folks listen to podcasts for a variety reasons including for news, professional development, and entertainment. We decided to ask several SLA New England Leaders this question – What is your favorite podcast(s)?

Khalilah Gambrell, President


Joy McNally Brandow, President-Elect
Marketplace (http://www.marketplace.org/about) – “Marketplace is produced and distributed by American Public Media (APM), in association with the University of Southern California. The Marketplace portfolio of programs includes Marketplace with Kai Ryssdal, Marketplace Morning Report with David Brancaccio, Marketplace Weekend with Lizzie O’Leary, and Marketplace Tech with Ben Johnson. It is the only national daily news program originating from the West Coast, Marketplace is noted for its timely, relevant and accessible coverage of business economics and personal finance.”

Stefanie Maclin-Hurd, Immediate Past President, Nominating Committee Chair
Welcome to Night Vale (http://www.welcometonightvale.com) – A podcast on the strange happenings in Night Vale, a fictional small town.

Leigh Montgomery, Past President, Awards Committee Chair
C-SPAN podcasts (https://www.c-span.org/podcasts/) – Every Sunday night, C-SPAN has its signature ‘Q & A’ hour-long interview program which is frequently a public figure or journalist who is an authority or a book author on a timely subject. There is another similar program called ‘After Words’, that includes interviews with authors of nonfiction titles.

Bob Kowalski, Treasurer
Planet Money (http://www.npr.org/sections/money/) – It’s a great combination of news, odd ball economic stories and is usually funny. It’s been running since the bank collapse.


What is your favorite podcast? Why? Let us know by adding a comment.
Come join fellow information professionals in the Hartford area at Vito’s by the Park for dinner, friendly conversation, and networking. Khalilah Gambrell, President of SLA New England will be attending. We will start with a discussion of the article “When Weak Connections are Valuable at Work” by Frank Gullo. (It is available to everyone via the author’s blog at: http://ravenhost.blogspot.com/2016/05/when-weak-connections-are-valuable-at.html)

**Hosts:** Rosanna Longenbaker (rosanna.m.longenbaker"at"gmail.com) and Fred Wergeles

**Date:** Tuesday, October 25, 2016

**Time:** 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM

**Location:** Vito’s by the Park (http://vitosct.com/vitos-by-the-park)

26 Trumbull Street, Hartford, CT

**Parking:** Validation is available for $5 off for 3 hours at the Trumbull on the Park garage (https://www.lazparking.com/local/hartford-ct/trumbull-on-the-park). Street parking is available for free after 6:00 PM.

**Carpooling information:** https://www.carpoolworld.com/carpooling.html?c=newengland_sla

**Cost:** The cost of the event is free but registration is required. Attendees will pay for their own dinner and drinks.

**RSVP by** Friday, October 21, 2016

**Register:** https://www.eventbrite.com/e/scipsla-ne-hartford-dine-around-tickets-28050144738
SLA New England Upcoming Fall 2016 Events

September 29, 2016  Categories: News & Notes, Programs

Fall programming kicked off with the Fall Conference and continues through the Annual Business Meeting. Check out a list of upcoming events.

Now – November 14th: Update your SLA New England Connect Profile and Enter a raffle to win a $25 Amazon gift card. To celebrate our first fall on SLA Connect, the New England chapter is kicking off a contest for members who claim and update their profile. This can be adding a photo, syncing your SLA Connect account with other networking platforms like LinkedIn, or sharing info in your bio/work history. To be entered into the drawing, edit your profile before November 15th. Three lucky winners will be announced at the Annual Business Meeting and via our Connect community.

October 3rd – October 16th: Sign up for SLA New England Day on the Job (DOTJ), our annual mentoring opportunity that allows library and information science students to connect with professionals. During this period, we are accepting students and hosts who want to participate. Within a few weeks, hosts and students will receive their matches. More details will be posted shortly.

October 25th  6:00 pm – 8:00 pm: RSVP for SLA New England Dine Around, Vito’s by Park – Hartford, CT: Join fellow information professionals in the Hartford area for dinner, friendly conversation, and networking. Khalilah Gambrell, President of SLA New England will be attending. We will start with a discussion of the article “When Weak Connections are Valuable at Work” by Frank Gullo. (available to all via the author’s blog at: http://ravenhost.blogspot.com/2016/05/when-weak-connections-are-valuable-at.html). RSVP at https://www.eventbrite.com/e/scipsla-ne-hartford-dine-around-tickets-28050144738 by Friday, October 21, 2016.

November 5th  11:00 am – 2:00 pm: Save the Date for SLA New England and SLA@Simmons – LinkedIn Best Practices Workshop at Simmons College. Deborah Federico, Career Services & Employment Relations Specialist at the University of Massachusetts Boston, will provide tips and tricks on how to get the most out of LinkedIn at this hands-on workshop. She has published several articles on LinkedIn for The Vault Career Intelligence and on her own personal blog, “From College to Career.”

November 15th  5:30 pm – 8:00 pm: Save the Date for SLA New England Annual Business Meeting and Phoebe Ayers presentation on Wikipedia at Draper.Join the chapter as it honors outstanding volunteers and welcomes new chapter leadership at the Annual Business Meeting. At the conclusion of the Annual Business Meeting, Phoebe Ayers, will present “Welcome to Wikipedia: how libraries and the world’s largest reference source can work together.” Phoebe Ayers (@phoebe_ayers) is a librarian at MIT, where she specializes in electrical engineering and computer science. She also served four years on the Board of Trustees of the Wikimedia Foundation, which runs Wikipedia and its sister projects. She is the co-author of a book about Wikipedia called “How Wikipedia Works: and How You Can be a Part of It” and is a long-time member of the project’s community. We greatly appreciate IEEE’s sponsorship of the Annual Business Meeting. Special thanks to Betty Edwards and Draper for hosting us.

More details on all events will be posted to the chapter website, http://newengland.sla1.org and SLA New England Community on SLA Connect.

Credit: Photo taken by Jamie Rose Bukowski
RSVP for Annual Business Meeting and Phoebe Ayers’ Presentation on Wikipedia

October 4, 2016 Categories: News & Notes, Programs

Join the chapter as it honors outstanding volunteers and welcomes new chapter leadership at the Annual Business Meeting on Tuesday, November 15th from 5:30pm – 8:00pm. At the conclusion of the Annual Business Meeting, Phoebe Ayers, will present “Welcome to Wikipedia: how libraries and the world’s largest reference source can work together.”

Phoebe Ayers (@phoebe_ayers) is a librarian at MIT, where she specializes in electrical engineering and computer science. Previously, she was a science and engineering librarian at the University of California Davis. She also served four years on the Board of Trustees of the Wikimedia Foundation, which runs Wikipedia and its sister projects. She is the co-author of a book about Wikipedia called “How Wikipedia Works: and How You Can be a Part of It” (No Starch Press, September 2008) and is a long-time member of the project’s community.

We greatly appreciate IEEE’s sponsorship of the Annual Business Meeting. Special thanks to Betty Edwards and Draper for hosting us.

Food and drink will be served throughout the meeting and Phoebe’s presentation.

Date/Time: Tuesday, November 15th / 5:30 PM – 8:00 PM

Location: Draper, 1 Hampshire Street, Cambridge, MA  02139

Public Transportation: Red Line MBTA (Kendall/MIT), a 10-minute walk to the meeting.


Parking: Validated visitor parking is available in the Technology Square Garage located at 800 Technology Square. Bring ticket into meeting so Security Guard can validate it.

Register by November 9th
**Important Note:** As Draper is a defense contractor, pre-registration is necessary and attendance is limited to US Citizens and Green Card holders. **All attendees must bring a government issued photo ID such as a driver’s license, passport, military ID, or original green card.**

**Agenda:**

5:30 Registration and Networking

6:00 Annual Business Meeting will also be available via Webex

6:45-7:30 **Presentation by Phoebe Ayers** – “Welcome to Wikipedia: how libraries and the world’s largest reference source can work together”

**Synopsis:** Wikipedia has 40 million articles in more than 200 languages, over 30 million freely licensed files and videos, and around half a billion visitors every month. It is the largest non-profit online project operating today, with contributors on every continent. All of this has been created in the last 15 years by volunteers working independently, without top-down coordination. How does this massive international collaboration work? And how can librarians and special libraries participate?

This talk will cover the inner workings of the project from the perspective of a librarian and long-time Wikipedian. We’ll discuss the dozens of library and archive initiatives that have been developed to date in order to improve Wikipedia content, get archival collections online, and increase patron and student engagement, and ways to bring Wikipedia into your library. And we will reflect on the current state of Wikipedia, its challenges, and its future as a shared reference source for the world.
Sign up to be a Day on the Job Host by October 16th

October 5, 2016 Categories: News & Notes

Once again, the SLA New England Chapter is pleased to announce the “Day on the Job” (DOTJ) program for LIS students.

This popular program enables students to meet with practicing LIS professionals and to learn more about their jobs, work environments, career history and objectives. The program has proven to be highly beneficial to students as they explore different types of work situations and possibilities and, in some cases, it has had a direct impact on a student’s career choices. We invite you to be a host to one or several of these students.

Despite its name, DOTJ does not consist of a particular day or format. The date and time can be negotiated between the student and host, although the best time for students is usually during the school semester. The format is also flexible, ranging from a day-long job shadow to an interview, or series of interviews, to a library tour or in-depth conversation. Whatever time you are able to share with a student will be appreciated.

Interested? Email Wendy Austin (austin.wendy AT gmail DOT com) by October 16th, 2016, with a short background of your library/services and include the type of library and whether you would like to do a tour or an in-depth conversation, and whether you would be amenable to hosting a group or one student. Once we have determined which student(s) are the best match for your situation, we will email the contact information to you by the end of October/beginning of November.

If you have any questions, please contact: Wendy Austin, SLA Student Relations Committee austin.wendy AT gmail DOT com.

We are most grateful for your participation and attention in this beneficial experience.

SLA New England Student Relations Committee

(Photo Courtesy of WOCinTech Chat)
RSVP for LinkedIn Best Practices Workshop

October 10, 2016 Categories: News & Notes, Programs

Register for the LinkedIn Best Practices Workshop sponsored by SLA New England and SLA@Simmons on Saturday, November 5th from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm at the Simmons College Tech Lab.

Deborah Federico, Career Services & Employment Relations Specialist at the University of Massachusetts Boston. At this hands-on workshop, Ms. Federico will provide tips and tricks on how to get the most out of LinkedIn. She has published several articles on LinkedIn for The Vault Career Intelligence and on her own personal blog, “From College to Career.”

The workshop will take place at the Simmons College Tech Lab classroom equipped with computers so attendees will be able to make updates in real-time. The classroom’s maximum capacity is 29 thus we will limit this workshop to Simmons students and current SLA New England members. In addition to Deborah’s presentation, a photographer will be available for attendees to take professional headshots.

Once we reach capacity, folks can register for the waiting list and be alerted when anyone cancels based on order in queue. Note Simmons students, please provide your Simmons email address so we can verify status.

Read more details and Register Today

http://newengland.sla1.org/?post-type=post&show_title=1&show_date...
October and November 2016 SLA New England Programming

October 10, 2016 Categories: News & Notes, Programs

After a successful Fall Conference, the chapter is kicking into high gear with the following programs.

Now – November 14th: Update your SLA New England Connect Profile and Enter a raffle to win a $25 Amazon gift card. To celebrate our first fall on SLA Connect, the New England chapter is kicking off a contest for members who claim and update their profile. This can be adding a photo, syncing your SLA Connect account with other networking platforms like LinkedIn, or sharing info in your bio/work history. To be entered into the drawing, edit your profile before November 15th. Three lucky winners will be announced at the Annual Business Meeting and via our Connect community. View additional details at SLA Connect > SLA New England Community.

October 3rd – October 16th: Sign up for SLA New England Day on the Job (DOTJ), our annual mentoring opportunity that allows library and information science students to connect with professionals. During this period, we are accepting students and hosts who want to participate. Within a few weeks, hosts and students will receive their matches. View additional details.

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November 5th 11:00 am – 1:00 pm: Save the Date for SLA New England and SLA@Simmons – LinkedIn Best Practices Workshop at Simmons College. Deborah Federico, Career Services & Employment Relations Specialist at the University of Massachusetts Boston, will provide tips and tricks on how to get the most out of LinkedIn at this hands-on workshop. She has published several articles on LinkedIn for The Vault Career Intelligence and on her own personal blog, “From College to Career.” Space is limited – Register today!

November 15th 5:30 pm – 8:00 pm: Save the Date for SLA New England Annual Business Meeting and Phoebe Ayers presentation on Wikipedia at Draper. Join the chapter as it honors outstanding volunteers and welcomes new chapter leadership at the Annual Business Meeting. At the conclusion of the Annual Business Meeting, Phoebe Ayers, will present “Welcome to Wikipedia: how libraries and the world’s largest reference source can work together.” Phoebe Ayers (@phoebe_ayers) is a librarian at MIT, where she specializes in electrical engineering and computer science. She also served four years on the Board of Trustees of the Wikimedia Foundation, which runs Wikipedia and its sister projects. She is the co-author of a book about Wikipedia called “How Wikipedia Works: and How You Can be a Part of It” and is a long-time member of the project’s community. We greatly appreciate IEEE’s sponsorship of the Annual Business Meeting. Special thanks to Betty Edwards and Draper for hosting us. Register today!

Credit: Photo taken by Jamie Rose Bukowski
Ready to Lead! Accepting Nominations for 2017 Chapter President – Elect

October 11, 2016 Categories: News & Notes

We are looking for the next SLA New England President-Elect. It is a great opportunity to lead and help your peers. You have the opportunity with fellow officers and committee chairs to define the chapter’s outlook for the next two years.

President-Elect Responsibilities
1. Plan two programs for Summer and Fall 2017. The President will lead programming initially so that the President-Elect has an opportunity to learn the ins and outs of programming.
2. Lead Programming Committee to help with all aspects of programming planning. Committee volunteers will be in place when s/he begins term.
3. Learn chapter operations, members, and history to prepare for his/her Presidency in 2018.
4. Attend 2017 and 2018 Annual Conferences and represent the chapter at national board meetings. As President-Elect, your annual conference registration for both years will be paid for.

President-Elect Key Benefits:
- Enhance your professional standing. You are a leader and known as such by your peers.
- Develop critical skills such as project management, delegation, public speaking, and negotiation that will help in your career advancement. You learn these skills in a supportive environment.
- Grow as a leader and manager. You will lead a team in supporting the networking and professional needs of New England librarians and information professionals.
- Share your knowledge with others. Learn to be a leader and mentor future leaders.

Time Commitment: We understand that time is a big concern for folks considering this position. We have a strong board of officers and chairs who work as a team. And as such we are all committed to the success of this chapter.

If you are interested in the President-Elect role or want to nominate a person please contact the 2017 Nominating Committee chair, Stefanie Maclin-Hurd (srmaclin AT gmail dot com).
A Student’s Perspective: Benefits of Attending a SLA Annual Conference

October 19, 2016 Categories: Conferences, News & Notes

Amy Wilson, DLS Specialist at WilmerHale LLP and MLIS Candidate at Simmons College, was awarded the SLA New England Chapter Student Stipend and attended this year’s annual conference. We are fortunate she wrote about her time at the conference. She highlights several benefits for attending a SLA Annual Conference.

Back in December 2015, when I first registered for the SLA 2016 Conference, all that I knew about the field of special librarianship was that it included my focus, law librarianship. I wanted to learn more about the profession, and I saw SLA as a kind of umbrella where that could happen. It was an added bonus that the conference was in a new city, and with family nearby I would get to visit with them as well.

By the time June arrived, I had two semesters of graduate school at Simmons College under my belt. I had taken five classes while working full-time, including a course in special/corporate libraries with the prolific Dr. James Matarazzo. Jim was happy to hear that I was planning to attend SLA and encouraged me to apply for scholarships. I never imagined that I would be chosen as a recipient of SLA New England’s student stipend.

My Conference Experience: Opportunity to Expand My Knowledge and Connections

Even though I was initially interested in attending the SLA Annual Conference because of my law library focus, some of my favorite events were the ones on unfamiliar topics. One of the classes, “The Role of Information Privacy and Ethics in Good Business Practices,” was lively and thought-provoking. People definitely have strong opinions about big data and privacy, and the panelists really encouraged dialogue within our small group. I surprised myself by speaking up at the end of the program, because I could see the conversation turning to the obvious anecdote, “young people put everything on the internet and don’t care who can see it.” I wanted to point out that actually elderly people are some of the most vulnerable on the internet because they are not as likely to be critical users of the internet. Digital natives and millennials, I argued, deserve more credit than we give them. I’m glad I spoke up, because after my comment I had many people come up to me to continue the conversation. Opening myself up during the discussion made me more approachable and earned me a few business cards for my stash.

Some of the events I attended were focused on competitive intelligence, like the talk on “The Importance of Soft Skills in Intelligence Gathering and Practice.” This was great preparation for my CI course during the summer term at Simmons. In fact, on Monday morning of the conference, I remembered that my professor, Cynthia Correia, was speaking at SLA, so I emailed her and we ended up grabbing lunch together before she returned to Boston. I was glad to meet her in-person, since our summer class was online. While at lunch in the Reading Terminal Market, we also ended up sitting next to a law librarian from a firm in New York City, and the three of us had a great conversation about CI, law firms, and legal research.

I didn’t have a strategy for selecting sessions or events other than trying to be exposed to as many new ideas as possible; I was no longer focused on just law librarianship. My own personal curiosity about Voter ID Laws drew me to the fascinating presentation on that subject. Also, one of my surprise favorites was the panel on “Preparing Students for Corporate Research Life,” because I have the perspective of being not only a recent undergraduate, but also an employee at a large law firm.

I spent a lot of time in the INFO-EXPO, attended the Legal Division’s Sunday night reception and Monday morning breakfast, and went to a Simmons alumni meet-up on Sunday evening. I also gave myself mental breaks from the events by taking walks outside in the hot weather; one day I even went to see the Liberty Bell during lunch. I came back from my sightseeing ready to jump back in with a renewed appreciation for the opportunity to visit this beautiful city.

At the time of the conference, it felt as though many of my conversations and new contacts were built serendipitously; looking back, however, I realize that I was also placing myself in the right situations and allowing myself to be open. Asking questions during an event, or sitting at table next to a stranger at breakfast (who turned out to be one of the presenters!) led me into fascinating conversations and unexpected opportunities.

Even though I originally thought of SLA as just an umbrella to my narrower focus, I learned by attending the conference, that special librarians are a truly unique branch of information professionals. Our divisions don’t really divide us, and our professional lives can only benefit from sharing our personal experiences. My first conference experience was definitely a success and I am so grateful to SLA New England for their financial support!
Announcing 2017 SLA New England Chapter Nominations

November 10, 2016 Categories: News & Notes

The SLA New England Chapter Nominating Committee is pleased to announce the following slate of new officers for 2017. These nominees will officially be introduced and elected at the November 15th Annual Business Meeting.

President Elect – OPEN

We are still accepting nominees for President-Elect. Please contact Khalilah Gambrell (gambrell9899@gmail.com) if you are interested or would like to submit a nomination.

Secretary (two year term) – Mary (Purdey) Perez

Mary has been the Chapter Secretary since 2014, and has graciously accepted this position for another two year term. She worked at Wheelock College’s Earl Center for Learning and Innovation, from September 2013 to December 2015. She has a Master’s degree in Library and Information Science from Simmons College, and a Bachelor’s degree from Boston University.

Co-Director of Communications (two year term) – Karen Frenchu and Chrissy Geluk

Karen Frenchu

Karen Frenchu is Senior Librarian for an international public health organization. As a solo librarian, Karen works with many aspects of librarianship; she particularly enjoys helping colleagues discover more effective ways to find the information they need and describing her work as “saving babies via citations.” Karen has been in the Boston area since 2009 and has been a member of SLA New England since 2010. When not managing library systems and health information needs, she aims to master every form of Greek and to read at least one “fun” book a week. Read about her top 3 SLA Membership Benefits.

Chrissy Geluk

Chrissy Geluk has been a member of SLA since 1998. Her first “active” role was as Fundraiser for the PHT Division in 2005 and that led to Chair-Elect, Chair and Past Chair of the PHT Division in 2007, 2008 and 2009. Chrissy has also been active as Webmaster for the IT Division and is currently active for the CI Division and EPRAC Committee.

Beside Chrissy’s SLA’s activities, Chrissy also volunteers with PIUG as the Evaluations Chair for the Biotech Conference Committee and as a member of the newly formed Social Media Committee. Chrissy is excited to contribute to the New England Chapter as the co-director of Communication.

Chrissy recently founded her own information services company last July 2015 and is the Principal & Founder of Librarian At Your Service LLC. She has an undergraduate degree in mathematics from Fordham University and a graduate degree in information science from Simmons. In their spare time, Chrissy and her husband enjoy travelling, scuba diving and spending time with family & friends.

The 2016 Nominating Committee

Stefanie Maclin-Hurd – Chair
Congratulations to SLA New England 2016 Awards Honorees

November 22, 2016 Categories: Awards & Recognition

SLA New England honored members with chapter’s awards at the Annual Business Meeting on Tuesday, November 15.

Chapter Achievement Award

ROSANNA LONGENBAKER

Recognizing a chapter member for outstanding committee work, performance in office, or execution of event-related duties during this program year, Rosanna was honored in appreciation for her work with the programming committee and engaging the Connecticut region with enthusiasm and an optimistic perspective.

Chapter Achievement Award

WENDY AUSTIN

Wendy has been leading the Student Relations Committee since 2012. She has led several of the Chapter’s Day on the Job programs which provide LIS students the opportunity to connect directly with professionals and to spend a day with them in a corporate or library setting. And as chair, she has awarded stipends to several students for the amazing opportunity to attend the SLA annual conference over the years. Wendy’s efforts have led to more students’ interest in SLA, and impacted their career directions.

Distinguished Service Award

KHALILAH GAMBRELL

Recognizing a chapter member for a sustained record of supporting chapter activities over the years. These may be for service on one or more committees, by holding various offices, or for managing different events, that when considered cumulatively have notably furthered the life of the chapter. Khalilah is being recognized for all of these. She has also served two terms as the chapter’s president.

From the nominations:

“Khalilah has consistently devoted time, energy, and creativity to ensuring that SLA New England is sustainable and provides meaningful benefits to its current and potential members. By stepping up to become President, again, she demonstrated her belief in the value of the chapter and SLA overall to New England information professionals. She has also demonstrated her leadership abilities by continuing to foster a chapter team around her that proposes and implements really wonderful programs spread out across the large territory our chapter covers so that no one feels left out and there are opportunities for everyone to participate.” – Dr. James Matarazzo

Congratulations and many thanks to all.

Emily Ferrier, Leigh Montgomery, Marie Nardi, Toby Pearlstein

2016 Awards Committee
2016 SLA New England Chapter Reflections

December 18, 2016 Categories: News & Notes

Teamwork. As I reflect on this year and SLA New England that is the one word that always pops up. I want to outline some of our highlights.

**15 In-person events.** The chapter held at least one program each month except for January 2016! We held numerous dine arounds throughout the chapter hosted by several members. We held programs on building a gaming collection, dealing with change led by 2017 SLA President Dee Magnoni, and a LinkedIn Best Practices Workshop. We also had a successful Fall Conference that had nearly 70 attendees. Sessions were informative led by amazing presenters. Session summaries and presentations are posted on the chapter website. To conclude our year, Phoebe Ayers presented at the Annual Business Meeting on Wikipedia and the role of librarians. **Events were held in the following areas:**

- Massachusetts – Boston/Cambridge: (5 events)
- Connecticut – Hartford Area: (3 events)
- Massachusetts – Western: (1 event)
- Massachusetts – Central: (1 event)
- Massachusetts – South Shore: (1 event)
- Massachusetts – North Shore: (1 event)
- Massachusetts – Waltham: (1 event)
- Maine – Portland: (1 event)
- New Hampshire: (1 event) – *we tried but low registration for library tour*

Annual Conference: (1 event) Read [post](http://newengland.sla1.org/?post-type=post&show_title=1&show_date=...) on chapter representation at the 2016 Annual Conference.

In addition to events, the chapter awarded two stipends to attend the Annual Conference: Rosanna Longenbaker (Professional Development Stipend) and Amy Wilson (Student Stipend). We held Day on the Job for the 36th year led by Wendy Austin, Student Relations Chair. We also continued our strong relationship with SLA@Simmons by co-sponsoring Interview X program and Best Practices LinkedIn Workshop.

We also worked to re-establish the Programming (led by incoming President Joy McNally Brandow) and Membership (Paula Cohen) Committees. Both committees are critical to the future of the chapter and I appreciate that they took on these roles.

Stefanie Maclin-Hurd, Past-President, led the chapter and coordinated with the Academic Division and SLA New York to distribute ribbons that took a stand against HB2 and a stand for equality for all at this year’s SLA Annual Conference.

Anna Rothman became our SLA Connect Administrator and has led our efforts to understand how to utilize this new tool and to encourage communications among members.

Susan McGovern, Chapter Archivist, led the effort to successfully move SLA Connecticut Valley Archives to Simmons College. Finally all SLA New England archives are housed in one place!

Our engagement this year was great but this year we also began to face the realities that with changes to SLA and with the chapter over the years that recruiting leaders has become more difficult. Like other units, it is a struggle and it is one that we are beginning to put a roadmap to address starting next year.

Yet with this challenge it has been an amazing year! A year in which a team of dedicated volunteers brought enthusiasm along with quality events and programming to the chapter. I am truly blessed and honored to have been a part of this team. It makes me and I hope all excited for the future. And the future looks great with an amazing group of incoming officers and chairs led by the Joy. I am also hopeful for the future because SLA HQ has a great team of people who over time will be providing support that the organization and its units need.

Lastly, thank you all for the opportunity to have one more go-around as President of SLA New England. Have a wonderful holiday season!

All the best,

-Khalilah
Introducing 2017 SLA New England Chapter Officers

December 18, 2016 Categories: News & Notes

We are pleased to announce 2017 SLA New England Chapter Officers. Looking forward to an amazing 2017!

President – Joy McNally Brandow

![Joy McNally Brandow](image)

Joy McNally Brandow has been a member of SLA since 2005 and joined the Chapter board in 2015 as Director of Communications. She has been active in the Engineering division and now the Food, Agriculture & Nutrition division. Currently, she is a solo librarian at the Union of Concerned Scientists (Cambridge, MA). She has worked previously at engineering/insurance, academic, and public libraries. Joy holds a dual degree in History and Archives management from Simmons. Joy lives in Boston with her librarian husband and daughter.

President Elect – Ola S. Canty

![Ola S. Canty](image)

Ola is a recent graduate of the Simmons College Library and Information Science, Archives Management program. While at Simmons, she served on the board of the SLA student chapter as Vice President (2016) and Treasurer (2015/16). Ola had her first special library experience as an intern in the archives of the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston, and she is diving into the health records industry now.

Past-President – Khalilah Gambrell

![Khalilah Gambrell](image)

Khalilah Gambrell, MA, MLS, is currently a Marketing Technology Analyst with EBSCO Industries. She has a MA in History from Boston College and MLS from Simmons College School of Library and Information Science (SLIS). She was the SLA New England Chapter President in 2012 and served on the 2015 Annual Conference Advisory Council.

Treasurer – Bob Kowalski

![Bob Kowalski](image)

Bob Kowalski has been a member of SLA since 1995. Bob joined the Boston (now New England) chapter that same year and the PHT (Pharmaceutical & Health Technology) shortly after. Currently, Bob is working at Pfizer in Andover, MA. Bob has been active in the PHT division of SLA, including serving on the board as Treasurer from 2006-2009.

Secretary – Mary (Purdey) Perez

![Mary (Purdey) Perez](image)

Mary has been the Chapter Secretary since 2014, and has graciously accepted this position for another two year term. She worked at Wheelock College’s Earl Center for Learning and Innovation, from September 2013 to December 2015. She has a Master’s degree in Library and Information Science from Simmons.
College, and a Bachelor’s degree from Boston University.

Strategic Planning Director and Past President – Nancy Burt

Nancy Burt has been a member of SLA since 2008 and served as Boston Chapter President in 2011. Currently, Nancy is a Senior Manager, System and Content Integration at Fidelity Investments in Boston, MA. Nancy is also a member of the B&F Division. As Chapter President, Nancy presided over the chapter name change from SLA Boston to SLA New England. She also engaged volunteers to create a strong executive board and foster communication across the chapter.

Co-Director of Communications – Karen Frenchu and Chrissy Geluk

Karen Frenchu

Karen Frenchu is Senior Librarian for an international public health organization. As a solo librarian, Karen works with many aspects of librarianship; she particularly enjoys helping colleagues discover more effective ways to find the information they need and describing her work as “saving babies via citations.” Karen has been in the Boston area since 2009 and has been a member of SLA New England since 2010. When not managing library systems and health information needs, she aims to master every form of Greek and to read at least one “fun” book a week. Read about her top 3 SLA Membership Benefits.

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Let’s learn from each other in 2017

January 28, 2017 Categories: News & Notes

Dear SLA New England,

We are gearing up for a year filled with formal and informal networking opportunities for members to learn from each other in 2017. We hope you will all join us as we try to provide opportunities to share our experiences and expertise, and find ways to support our colleagues.

We will also focus on helping to build our individual competencies. SLA has revised its professional competencies document and we will be exploring it together this year to ensure members are building these skills and have the vocabulary to demonstrate their value and effectively advocate for their work within their larger organizations.

This will only work if we all participate. We must be willing to share our stories, both successes and mistakes. My challenge to chapter members is to be active and engaged in your own professional growth:

- **Connect** with 3 new people outside your existing professional network
- **Write** a piece for the SLA New England website on your latest project or a resource you frequently recommend
- **Volunteer** to help with an SLA New England program or networking event

I am excited to be working with this great chapter and I hope you will join us this year as we collaborate and help each other become even better, more resourceful, more connected information professionals!

Joy McNally Brandow
SLA@Simmons, the Simmons College student chapter of the Special Libraries Association, is very excited to be planning our Spring 2017 ResumeX event! ResumeX is a speed dating style career development workshop in which LIS professionals review current graduate students’ resumes and cover letters, offering constructive feedback for improvement.

Current SLA NE members, this is your chance to support new and upcoming LIS professionals in their transition from students to professionals. Your experience is a valuable resource to SLIS students who are, or will soon be, on the job hunt! If you are interested in volunteering, please email: sla@simmons.edu.

**ResumeX will be held on Tuesday, March 28th, at Simmons College.** There will be two one-hour rounds of feedback: 5:00-6:00pm and 6:00-7:00pm. Food and parking will be provided. In your email, please indicate whether you would like to volunteer for one or both time slots.

Please contact sla@simmons.edu with any questions.

Thanks in advance for your participation!

Kelly Bunting
President, SLA@Simmons
SLA NE 2017 Conference Student Stipend

March 4, 2017 Categories: Stipends

SLA New England is pleased to announce a $1,500 stipend available to a current MLIS student in the New England area to attend the 2017 SLA Conference, held in Phoenix, AZ.

The Special Libraries Association (SLA) is a nonprofit global organization for innovative information professionals and their strategic partners. SLA serves more than 7,000 members in 75 countries in the information profession, including corporate, academic, and government information specialists. SLA promotes and strengthens its members through learning, advocacy, and networking initiatives.

Why attend the SLA Annual Conference?

- Networking opportunities – share your experiences and learn from other information professionals.
- Over 200 events, including educational programs, networking events, receptions, and tours.
- The latest technologies from leading industry partners, all under one roof in the INFO-EXPO Hall.

SLA New England Student Stipend Award Criteria

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Be currently enrolled as a degree candidate at an ALA-accredited academic program in Library and Information Science.
- Be a member of SLA – award may go to covering student membership fee if not already a current member.
- Be a first time attendee of a SLA conference.

APPLICATION PROCESS:

Submit a document containing the following information/elements:

- Full name
- Academic affiliation: Institution and Program
- Start date of program; number of semesters and courses completed as of December 2016; and anticipated date of graduation
- Contact information, including mailing address, telephone, and email
- Other SLA division awards, if any, for which you are applying
- An essay of no more than 1 page (see details below), double-spaced
- Current resume (if you need help updating your resume, please visit SLA@Simmons to learn more about the upcoming ResumeX event held Tuesday, March 28, 2017)

ESSAY DESCRIPTION:

Write a 1-page, double-spaced essay on why you should attend the annual conference and how the conference will benefit your career aspirations.

Submissions will be judged based on originality and clarity as well as on inclusion of all required information. Spelling, grammar, and completion of all required information will count in judging.

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATION SUBMISSION:

Friday, April 7, 2017.

APPLICATION SUBMISSION:

Applications are no longer being accepted.

POST AWARD:

Awardee will be required to write a short post about his/her conference experience for the SLA New England Website.

Awardee is encouraged to serve a one-year term as a member of the Student Relations Committee of the SLA New England Chapter (may be accomplished virtually, if the recipient is no longer a New England resident following graduation).

NOTIFICATION AND AWARD DISTRIBUTION:

Applicants will receive notification of award status by the middle of April.

The recipient of the award will make their own conference and registration arrangements. They will receive prompt reimbursement of up to $1,500 for travel expenses post-conference by submitting travel receipts to the SLA New England treasurer. The award may be applied to SLA membership costs, SLA student conference registration fee, transportation, and lodging costs. Meals and incidental expenses are not covered.
Curious to learn more about what’s new for the SLA 2017 conference in Phoenix before early-bird registration ends on March 31st? Come meet Conference Chair Brandy King for a dine-around. We’ll talk about changes in the conference format, some of the great educational sessions being offered, and our exciting keynote speakers!

Host: Brandy King (brandy"at"knowledge-linking.com)

Date: Tuesday, March 21, 2017

Time: 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM

Location: Not Your Average Joe’s (https://www.notyouraveragejoes.com/locations/massachusetts/burlington/)
4C Wayside Road, Burlington, MA 01803

Carpooling information: https://www.carpoolworld.com/carpool_html?event_number=7812

Cost: The cost of the event is free but registration is required. Attendees will pay for their own dinner and drinks.

RSVP by: Friday, March 17, 2017

Register: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/sla-new-england-dine-around-burlington-ma-tickets-32475930382
SLA New England & SLA@Simmons Dine-Around: Thursday, April 20th at Sweet Caroline’s

March 18, 2017 Categories: Dine around

Get to know your fellow and future fellow information professionals! Join SLA New England and SLA@Simmons students for a casual after-work cocktail and some friendly conversation and networking at Sweet Caroline’s in Fenway.

Date: Thursday, April 20th

Time: 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Location: Sweet Caroline’s, 1260 Boylston St, Boston, MA 02215

Public Transportation Options – Subway: Fenway and Kenmore Green Line Stops; Bus: 8, 19, 60, 65, 55, 57

Carpooling information: https://www.carpoolworld.com/carpooling.html?c=newengland_sla

Cost: Only what you eat and drink. Appetizers are on us!


Contact: Jill Aberdale – jillian.aberdale“at”gmail.com
The Programming Committee would appreciate your input regarding possible programming for this year and next. Please take 3 minutes to complete this brief survey, so that we may bring you the programs you are looking for when and where you need them.

This survey will be open through March 31st, so please be sure to share your input by then.
SLA New England Dine-Around: Wednesday, April 26th at Chilli Duck Thai

April 3, 2017 Categories: Dine around, News & Notes

Come join fellow information professionals in the Boston area at Chilli Duck Thai restaurant for dinner, friendly conversation, and networking. If you are taking the T, on your way to the restaurant from Copley Square, you will walk by the Boston Public Library. Make sure you take a look at WGBH’s satellite studio inside the library, along with a news desk and production room. The studio as well as a café were incorporated into BPL as part of its campaign to be more of a community space. We will start with a discussion of how libraries, whether private or public, are rebranding themselves. We will cover what we have done in our own libraries or report on what other libraries have done to appear less stuffy and more relevant.

Host: Nuchine Nobari (nuchine at gmail.com).

Date: Wednesday, April 26, 2017

Time: 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM

Location: 829 Boylston St, Boston, MA 02116 (Between Fairfield St & Gloucester St)

Menu: http://www.chilliduckthai.info/location.aspx

Directions: Take Green Line, B, C, or D to Copley Square. Walk 10 minutes westbound on Boylston, across from the Prudential Building. Should you be taking the E train, get off at the Prudential stop, walk through the building, cross the street, Boylston. If you plan to drive, parking is available at in the Prudential building entering on Huntington Avenue.

Carpooling information: https://www.carpoolworld.com/carpooling.html?c=newengland_sla

Cost: The cost of the event is free but registration is required. Attendees will pay for their own dinner and drinks.

RSVP by Friday, April 21, 2017 at: https://slanedinearound04262017.eventbrite.com
Joy McNally is our first 2017 Member Profile

April 6, 2017 Categories: Member Profile

One of our themes for 2017 is to learn from each other – and we’d like our members to learn a little more about the SLAers who make up SLA New England! To that end, we’ll be featuring some SLA New England Members in Member Profiles in our blog. Keep an eye on this space for to learn more about your fellow SLA New Englanders – and please consider filling out a profile to be featured yourself!

To get us started with our profiles, who better than our SLA New England Chapter President?

What’s your name? Joy McNally

What’s your position title?
Research Support Coordinator, Union of Concerned Scientists

How do you integrate learning new skills or technologies into your day-to-day?
Thankfully, working for an NGO focused on science-based public policy means that learning about new technology or trends is built in.

What’s one thing people are surprised to hear is part of your job?
Working with lobbyists and advocates to ensure policy is science-based

What’s been your most rewarding experience with SLA?
Being on the SLA New England board since it’s my job to meet, connect, and learn from all the wonderful chapter members!

Want to be featured in a future member profile? Fill out our google form to tell SLA New England members a little bit about yourself!
Make SLA Connect work for you!

April 20, 2017 Categories: News & Notes

How do you keep up with SLA, reach out to colleagues, and find out about what’s happening your community? Great news: we’re holding a short webinar with an easy refresher on how to make SLA Connect work for you.

Please register to join SLA Connect Quick Tips on Apr 25, 2017 12:00 PM EDT at: https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/5765287403223623170

Local SLA New England members Anna Rothman and Caren Torrey will present a 15 min overview of how to access SLA Connect. This will be a fun and informative webinar! We will take quick walk through settings, discussion boards, and general information to ensure you’re not missing out on local news and events.

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar. Thank you, and we’ll be seeing you soon!
Congratulations to our student stipend winner: Kelly Bunting!

April 26, 2017 Categories: Stipends

Kelly Bunting, SLA@Simmons President, is the recipient of this year’s student stipend award. In her essay, Kelly:

- demonstrated a commitment to both the profession & the conference
- clearly outlined how attending SLA Annual would align with her professional goals
- provided actionable follow-up for how she would take what she learned at the conference back into both her graduate school experience & her professional work environment

Kelly is in the Dual Library and Information Science Archives and History Masters program at Simmons College, with an expected graduation date of May 2018. She currently works as a Library & Archival Assistant at Draper in Cambridge, MA & as an Archivist for the American Textile History Museum in Lowell, MA. We are excited for Kelly to attend this year’s SLA Annual Conference in Phoenix, AZ!
SLA New England Dine-Around: Wednesday, May 24th at Brewers Tap and Table in Waltham

April 30, 2017 Categories: Dine around

Come join fellow information professionals at Brewers Tap and Table in Waltham, MA for friendly conversation and networking. Find out who’s attending – and speaking at — SLA 2017 in Phoenix, June 16-20.

Host: Marie Nardi

Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2017

Time: 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. (If you arrive early, enjoy a bourbon or beer at the bar.)

Location: Brewers Tap and Table, 256 Moody Street, Waltham, MA 02453

Here’s a blurb from the restaurant’s Website: **BTT is our tribute to the finest of North Eastern craft beers, farms, products, and people. We have 48 taps, an extensive selection of boutique and hard to find bourbons, and a global menu that, while genuinely creative by design, remains fully approachable.**

Directions are available [here](#). Parking: On-street parking is available along Moody street. There are also municipal lots nearby, including the Embassy parking facility, off Pine Street (behind the Embassy Landmark movie theater). Parking rates in this lot are in effect until 6:00 p.m. (The city loves to issue parking tickets).

Public Transportation:

**Bus:** (the source of the following information is [https://www.landmarktheatres.com/boston/embassy-cinema/info](https://www.landmarktheatres.com/boston/embassy-cinema/info))
All MBTA locals to Central Square in Waltham, which is at the intersection of Moody St. and Elm St. The restaurant is a short walk down Moody St.
From downtown Boston take the Route 556 or 558 bus.
From downtown Boston via Harvard Square & West Newton take the Route 553 or 554 bus.
From Central Square Cambridge, take the Route 70 or 70A Bus. From Brandeis, take the Route 553 bus. From Bentley take the Route 554 bus.

**Rail:** The Waltham commuter train station (75 Carter Street) is about 2/10th of a mile from the restaurant. (This stop is on the Fitchburg line, which terminates at North Station.)

Carpooling information: [https://www.carpoolworld.com/carpooling.html?c=newengland_sla](https://www.carpoolworld.com/carpooling.html?c=newengland_sla)

Cost: Only what you eat and drink.

RSVP: by 6:00 PM on Friday, May 19th at [https://slane_dinearoundmay24.eventbrite.com](https://slane_dinearoundmay24.eventbrite.com)

Contact: Marie Nardi, marie.nardi at sanofi.com, cell: 508-783-0083
Will we see you in Phoenix? Let us know!

May 8, 2017 Categories: News & Notes

We are really looking forward to seeing many of you at the SLA Annual Conference in Phoenix, AZ June 16-20. Registration is still available online through May 30 on the SLA website. And of course onsite registration will also be available in Phoenix during the conference.

For those of you who are attending, we would like to get an idea of which SLA NE members will be there. Please take 3 minutes to fill out this survey, letting us know of your intention to join us and whether you will be presenting at the conference. The survey will be open through May 30. We will post the attendees before the conference so that you can have a chance to make plans with old SLA NE friends.

SLA NE: Will We See You in Phoenix? Survey

See you soon!

http://newengland.sla1.org/?post-type=post&show_title=1&show_date=...
Dine-Around: Tuesday, May 23th at Bricco Trattoria in Glastonbury

May 12, 2017 Categories: Dine around, News & Notes

Join SLA New England and the Connecticut Library Consortium on May 23rd at 5:00pm for dinner at Bricco Trattoria in Glastonbury. We’ll discuss changes in the special libraries landscape, plans for the upcoming SLA conference (June 16-20 in Phoenix), and other topics. Join us for good food and conversation!

Registration: Please register here.

Questions: Ellen Janpol, Connecticut Library Consortium Roundtable Chair: ejanpol at westportlibrary.org, 860.967.6718
Connecticut State Library and Capitol Tour Tuesday, May 30 (Hartford, CT)

May 16, 2017 Categories: Programs

Come tour the Connecticut State Library and the Capitol. The Connecticut State Library houses two special libraries. One is a law and legislative library and the other is focused on Connecticut history and genealogy. We will tour the State Library in the morning and follow-up with an optional self-guided tour of the Capitol in the afternoon. The Connecticut State Library houses original materials that are not available anywhere else. They have paper copies of bills dating back to the early 1900s when the building was first opened. Also, they have bound indexed copies of public hearing transcripts. The Museum of Connecticut History is also in the building and will be included in the tour.

Date: Tuesday, May 30, 2017

Time: 10:00 AM – approximately 11:00 AM with an optional self-guided tour of the Capitol afterwards (allow two hours for Capitol tour)

Location: Connecticut State Library, 231 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, CT 06106 (https://ctstatelibrary.org)

Public Transportation: The State Library and Capitol Building are within walking distance of several bus lines (www.cttransit.com) and the Amtrak station.

Parking and Directions: Several free and for pay parking options are available please see the Museum of Connecticut History website for more information. (https://ctstatelibrary.org/museum-of-ct-history/)

Carpooling information: https://www.carpoolworld.com/carpooling.html?c=newengland_sla

To bring: A bag lunch to eat after the tour or money to buy lunch. Lunch is not available at the Library, however, there are food trucks nearby and the Billings Forge Farmers Market is within walking distance. There is a public lunchroom in the Library where you can eat.


Contact: Rosanna Longenbaker RosannaMLongenbaker “at” gmail.com

Note to participants:

The Connecticut State Library is located in the Connecticut Supreme Court building. You must walk through a metal detector and have your belongings sent through an x-ray machine in order to enter the building. No weapons are permitted in the Capitol. You must pass through a metal detector to enter the Capitol.


Register for the June 19th East Coast Chapters Reception at the Annual Conference

May 23, 2017 Categories: Conferences, News & Notes

Join us in Phoenix for the East Coast Chapters Reception hosted by SLA DC, SLA New England, SLA New York, and SLA Philadelphia chapters. The reception is a free ticketed event and we ask that folks register by Tuesday, May 30th to ensure we have an accurate count for food and beverage. Details for registering for the reception are available at https://www.sla.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/Instructions-for-Attendees-to-Add-Ticketed-Events-to-their-SLA-Conference-Registration.pdf (login with your SLA credentials to view).

Reception Details
Date: Monday – 6/19/2017
Time: 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm
Location: Sheraton Grand Phoenix, Maryvale
Cost: Free

We look forward to seeing you in Phoenix.
SLA New England Dine-Around: Tuesday, June 27th at Yangtze River Restaurant in Lexington, MA

May 25, 2017 

Categories: Dine around, News & Notes

Come join fellow information professionals in Lexington, MA and surrounding suburbs at the Yangtze River Restaurant. We can discuss the annual conference and other topics of interest.

Host: Ethel M. Salonen
Date: June 27, 2017
Time: 6:30 PM

Location: 21 Depot Square, Lexington, MA 02420, 781-861-6030

Directions

Parking: Parking is available on street as well as in a town parking lot.

Public transportation from Alewife Station

Carpooling information: https://www.carpoolworld.com/carpooling.html?c=newengland_sla

Cost: Only what you eat and drink. They have a full dinner buffet and wonderful cocktails.

RSVP by Friday, June 23, 2017 at https://slane_dinearoundjune27.eventbrite.com

Contact: Ethel M Salonen, ethel.salonen “at” verizon.net
Are You Ready For Phoenix?!!

May 26, 2017 Categories: Conferences, News & Notes

Update Your Registration

Register for any other events (whether they are free (like the IT Dance Party) or not (like CID’s Pecha Kucha Networking Reception) by Tues., 30 May. (Update! – Deadline extended 1 week until Tues., 6 June!) If you do it by 30 May, you will get an extra drink ticket in your registration packet. To add events to your registration, simply authenticate with your SLA user name and password to SLA.org and select “My Account”. Then scroll to the section for “My Upcoming Events” and select “View Registration”. Follow the prompts.

Plan Your Schedule

If you haven’t already, access the schedule from your desktop or from your smartphone using the QR code below

Learn about Arizona

Check out the SLA Arizona Chapter site for advice on Arizona weather, restaurants and more for your stay in Phoenix!

Use the SLA 2017 Annual Conference community on Connect as a resource too! You can find the slides from the “Let’s Get Ready for Phoenix” webinar there!

Remember to tweet before and during the conference by tagging your tweets with at least #SLA2017 and at @SLANewEngland!
Save the Date: July 9th PawSox Game with SLA Rhode Island

June 6, 2017 Categories: Programs

Join SLA New England and Rhode Island Chapters for a fun filled day of Pawtucket Red Sox Baseball at McCoy Stadium on Sunday, July 9th at 1:35pm. The PawSox will play the Buffalo Bisons.

**REGISTRATION:** Will be available on SLA New England & Rhode Island Connect Communities by Friday, June 9th. *Tickets are limited and only available to current SLA members.*

**CONTACTS:** Khalilah Gambrell (gambrell9899ATgmail.com) & Jane Loescher (janeloescherATearthlink.net)
Register for SLA New England & SLA Rhode Island July 9th PawSox Game

June 9, 2017 Categories: Programs

Join SLA New England and Rhode Island for a fun filled summer day at McCoy Stadium to watch the Pawtucket Red Sox versus the Buffalo Bisons on Sunday, July 9th at 1:35pm. Tickets are limited and only available to active SLA members.

**Date/Time:** Sunday, July 9th at 1:35pm

**Location:** McCoy Stadium, 1 Columbus Avenue, Pawtucket, Rhode Island

**Cost per person:** $14 and with your purchase you receive a $2 Concession credit

**Parking and Directions:** McCoy Stadium free parking and several parking options once stadium parking is full. All parking options and directions are available at [http://www.milb.com/content/page.jsp?ymd=20080903&content_id=41224652&sid=t533&vkey=team1](http://www.milb.com/content/page.jsp?ymd=20080903&content_id=41224652&sid=t533&vkey=team1)


**How to get your ticket(s)?** If you purchase a ticket by July 2nd then we will mail it to your home address. Or you can pick up your ticket at the game. The ticket distributor will be at the main entrance in front of the PawSox statue around 1:00pm.

**Contacts:** Khalilah Gambrell & Jane Loescher on SLA Connect

**RSVP by:** Sunday July 2nd

**PURCHASE TODAY**

[Eventbrite Ticketing](http://newengland.sla1.org/?post_type=post&show_title=1&show_date...)
Get Ready for Phoenix! —> SLA NE Members Presenting at 2017 SLA Annual Conference

June 15, 2017 Categories: Conferences, News & Notes

While finalizing your schedule for SLA 2017, don’t forget to check out the sessions of your fellow SLA New England members. Remember in addition to accessing the 2017 conference schedule from your desktop or laptop, you can use the conference app! Below is a schedule we’ve pulled together. (Thank you to everyone that submitted your info to the survey!) Click the session name for more details and to add to your conference schedule as well as connecting with each other via the conference app!

Don’t forget to tweet when attending the sessions by tagging #sla2017 and #slanewengland @slanewengland and @slahq!

Saturday, June 17th

8:00 AM – 12:00 PM | Project Management 101 | Convention Center, CC-121B | Presenter from New England: Jennifer Swanson (CE Course)

1:00 PM – 5:00 PM | Tackling Implicit Bias: How to Mitigate and Manage it in Research, Analysis, and Decision-Making | Convention Center, CC-121C | Presenter from New England: Cynthia Correia (CE Course)

Sunday, June 18th

7:30 AM – 9:00 AM | Engineering Division Breakfast & Awards | Convention Center, CC-121 B | Awardee from New England: Betty Edwards (receiving the George Mandel Memorial Award from the Aerospace Section of the Engineering Division)

9:00 AM – 10:00 AM | PAM Astronomy Roundtable – The Changing Roles of Astronomy Librarians (Part 1 of 2) | Convention Center, CC-222 A-C | Presenter from New England: Donna Thompson

2:15 PM – 3:30 PM | Great Ideas in Science – Book Discussion Group | Convention Center, CC-222 A-C | Presenter from New England: Donna Thompson

4:00 PM – 5:30 PM | Beyond the Day Job: Developing Leadership Skills Through Voluntary Service | Convention Center, CC-232 A-C | Presenter from New England: Brandy King

4:00 PM – 5:30 PM | Tackling Implicit Bias: How to Manage It in Your Work & Leadership | Convention Center, CC-221 A-C | Presenter from New England: Cynthia Correia

Monday, June 19th

7:30 – 9:00 AM | Corporate Information Centers Section Breakfast | Convention Center, CC-121C | Presenter from New England: John Aubrey

9:00 – 10:00 AM | Unlocking Government Information: Tips for Access to Restricted Databases | Convention Center, CC-225A | Presenter from New England: Barbara Williams

9:00 – 10:00 AM | Overcoming “Mentor Blocks”: A Fresh Look at Mentoring and How to Create Thriving and Successful Mentoring Experiences | Convention Center, CC-231 A-C | Presenter from New England: Cynthia Correia


1:30 PM – 3:00 PM | General Session: Dream Jobs for Info Pros | Convention Center, North Ballroom B-D | Presenters from New England: Brandy King and Brendan Thompson and Khalilah Gambrell will become a SLA Fellow!

7:00 PM – 9:00 PM | East Coast Chapters Reception | Convention Center, Maryvale A | Presenter: SLA New England (@slanewengland)

Tuesday, June 20th

9:00 AM – 10:00 AM | Show Me a Story: Data Storytelling Using Familiar Tools | Convention Center, CC-228 AB | Presenter from New England: Sally Gore


1:30 PM – 2:30 PM | Using Metrics in Taxonomy Work | Convention Center, CC-227 AB | Presenter from New England: Edee Edwards
Remote Usability Testing: Powerful Tool to Understand Your Users

July 5, 2017 Categories: Conferences, News & Notes

At this year’s conference, Chapter Past President and 2017 SLA Fellow, Khalilah Gambrell presented her contributed paper titled Remote Usability Testing: Powerful Tool to Understand Your Users. Over the years, she has conducted in-person and remote usability testing with academic institutions to better understand students and librarians’ needs. With her paper and presentation, she wanted to give attendees a better understanding of remote usability testing and encourage folks to conduct testing themselves.

The presentation provided a summary of what is covered in the Remote Usability Testing: Powerful Tool to Understand Your Users contributed paper (soon to be available on the SLA website). The presentation focused on why remote usability testing is a powerful tool for gaining insight about users. Remote usability testing provides greater flexibility in who to test and when to test. One is no longer constrained by locations, time zones or even budget. More importantly, any usability testing helps one to “come up for air” and minimizes you and your team’s assumptions and maximizes that decisions will provide a positive user experience. Without testing, you may not be aware of your users’ pain points and you may unintentionally cause more. With testing, you gain greater insight that will help you focus on resolving your users’ pain points. The presentation also covered the two types of remote usability testing, moderated and unmoderated testing, plus tools one can use for conducting testing. Lastly, the presentation provided tips for a successful remote usability test with the main tip being “Do not aim for perfection. Just do it. Iterate. Do it again.”

Khalilah has made the slides from her presentation available here.
Sometimes it’s good to stretch, to make yourself a bit uncomfortable, to put yourself in a setting that’s unfamiliar, among people that you don’t know, and in a wholly intolerable environment! Okay, not so much the last part, though 120 degrees in Phoenix was more of a stretch than most of us in New England can handle. It wasn’t “wholly intolerable,” but it was HOT!

I’m very familiar with the Medical Library Association. I’ve been a member throughout my career as a medical librarian, in its varied forms. I’ve been active at the national, regional, and state levels. I know the routine of meetings and I know that when I attend I will see lots of familiar and friendly faces. Attending MLA is, for me, as much of a social event as it is a professional development event. It’s where I see the colleagues and friends that make my profession mean so much to me.

But familiarity with a thing can dull one’s senses to surprises and the “Aha!” moments that occur when you hear someone share a new idea or project. Knowing lots of people can lead to distractions; lunches and dinners and drinks that are vital to networking, but that can take time away from formal programming. Volunteer commitments to lots of committees and sections are important, but can leave one exhausted during conferences – too tired to appreciate all of the rich content available.

And so sometimes, it’s good to travel to the lesser known. That’s what I did this summer when I attended SLA’s annual meeting in Phoenix. I was a first-time attendee. I didn’t know very many people at all and I’m not involved in any divisions or caucuses. I don’t quite understand how all of the pieces of SLA fit together. And so … you know what this experience gave me? Freedom!

I was free to try out all sorts of groups, to gather all kinds of new ideas from lots of different perspectives. While my “home” association, MLA, is vital to maintaining my professional network within academic medical libraries and biomedical research, attending SLA provided me with the opportunity to think about how the experiences and expertise of my colleagues in quite different settings can benefit my own work. I was able to think about how I do my work compared to how others, in say a corporate setting, do theirs – how their approaches to tackling issues might work for me, too. It was a refreshing and reinvigorating mental exercise.

I was also really – REALLY – blown away by Lulu Miller’s presentation during the first general session. Her challenge to think about how our quick responses to patrons’ questions (they always need an answer yesterday), our reliance on a particular set of resources for information, and our natural tendency to “obey the rules” may not help our patrons every time. The thought – the challenge – to disobey, to challenge biases, the think broader and be open to serendipity, made me think a lot. I’m still thinking about it. (The sign of a very good talk.)

I also realized that the benefit of what Lulu was inviting us to do was, in part, what I experienced throughout the meeting. I stretched. I thought a bit more broadly. I opened myself up to some different perspectives. And I came away from the meeting better off for doing so.

(You can find some more thoughts on my experience at SLA on my website, https://librarianhats.net/2017/06/27/millers-crossing-sla-2017/.)

Sally Gore, MS, MS LIS
Research Evaluation Analyst
UMass Center for Clinical & Translational Science
UMass Medical School
Worcester, MA
Save the Date and Register: Lightning Talks on Wed., 13 Sep @18:00

August 7, 2017 Categories: Conferences, News & Notes, Professional Development, Programs

The SLA New England Chapter and EBSCO, invite you to **Lightning Talks – Organizing our Digital World** on Wednesday, 13 September!

**WILL YOU BE THERE?**

Come hear 8-minute presentations on topics such as metrics in taxonomy, astrophysics databases, data visualization, linked data in searches, and taxonomies for digital content. The lightning talk presentations are without the use of visual aids and after all presentations are heard, the floor will be opened up for discussions and questions.

- Date: Wed., 13 September 2017
- Time: 18:00 to 20:00
- Place: Vertex Pharmaceuticals – 50 Northern Avenue, Boston. [Map It!]

Available? then please [register](http://newengland.sla1.org/?post_type=post&show_title=1&show_date=)

We look forward to seeing you on 13 September!

Please note that all attendees are required to show a government-issued photo ID upon entering Vertex for the program. Thank you for your cooperation.
Tell us about your experience with Day on the Job!

August 8, 2017 Categories: News & Notes

Every fall, SLA New England holds a Day on the Job (DOTJ) program. The program gives LIS students the opportunity to connect with library professionals. We want to hear the experiences of folks who have participated in the past as a student or professional. Please complete this survey by Friday, August 25 describing your DOTJ experience: https://goo.gl/forms/Wxhnw1A3hFD8PPUD3

Also we encourage you to share the survey with anyone you know that has been a participant.

Your experience will help to improve the program and share with others the program’s benefits. Thank you!

(Photo Courtesy of WOCinTech Chat)
SLA New England Happy Hour: Wed., 23 Aug at City Tap in Boston!

August 10, 2017 Categories: Dine around, News & Notes

Come join fellow information professionals in Boston at the City Tap.
RSVP by Sunday, 20 August 2017
Host: Catherine Boothby (Contact Catherine for any questions as host)
Date: Wednesday, 23 August 2017
Time: 18:00 to 20:00

Location: 10 Boston Wharf Rd, Boston, MA 02210; Map IT!

Other information on parking and public transportation can be found on the City Tap website. Interested in carpooling with your fellow #slaers?, please refer to the SLA New England carpooling site.
Our Student Stipend winner on making the most of SLA Annual

August 13, 2017 Categories: Conferences, Stipends

This year, I had the pleasure of attending the SLA 2017 Annual Conference in Phoenix, AZ. As the winner of the SLA New England Student Stipend Award, I received $1500 to fund that experience, an opportunity for which I could not be more grateful. If you follow any of the SLA message boards or receive any of the many SLA Connect email notifications, you’ve probably heard that SLA 2017 was a different conference from previous years. It was innovative, informative, organized, and just down right fun.

As a student entering my third year in the dual Archives and History program at Simmons College, many have wondered at my involvement in SLA (I’m the president of the Simmons student chapter, SLA@Simmons, and the student representative on the SNPAC) and interest in attending the conference. What does SLA or its conference have to offer an Archives student? The answer is: a lot.

Though the conference was only four days, so much happened in that short period of time that it is difficult to summarize it all here. Instead, I thought I would share some take-aways and some helpful hints from my experience that I think are useful to SLA members, both seasoned and new.

**Education**
For me, SLA was an exercise in putting myself out there and learning as much as I could. This was my first professional conference, and I knew I wanted to walk out with tangible things I could take back to both school and the workplace and implement to provide better service to patrons. And boy did I do that!

There were untold opportunities for learning at SLA 2017. For each educational time slot, I was eager to go to at least two sessions, if not four in some cases! Some of my favorite sessions were “Tackling Implicit Bias” led by Cynthia Correia and “CI for Beginners” led by Victoria Richard. Cynthia gave us tools and strategies to recognize bias within our own thinking and others’ as well as ways to “debias” our brains where possible and how to work effectively with and around the bias of others. Victoria wonderfully laid out what CI is, why we do it, and how to do it best. The enhanced SWOT analysis was my biggest take away – don’t just list strengths, weaknesses, etc., suggest strategies based on them!

I could use Cynthia’s talk to help reorient the minds of senior staff at my job who maybe don’t fully understand what our Library could be. I could use Victoria’s strategies to deliver more developed research to my clients. I have a notebook filled with scribbled notes summarizing talks like these, trying to get all the incredible information I came into contact with down. So much of the value of this conference is not in what you experience there, but what you can bring home with you.

*Pro tip: There is just too much to see at SLA, and not enough time to see it all. Feel free to attend multiple sessions in one time slot. People don’t mind if you leave in the middle of a presentation. They know you’re trying to make the most of the experience!* 

**Career Exploration**
I have found that I enjoy many areas of Library Science. In archives, academic libraries, and corporate libraries, I have found a home. While that means I’ve clearly found the right profession for me, I also thought it meant I had a lot of soul searching to do about how my future career would take shape. At SLA 2017, I hoped to find some guidance or inspiration to help narrow my interest and focus my career.

From the many conveniently labeled “Career Development” sessions, to the Dream Jobs panel, to the various division and caucus events, I was able to continue to explore the possibilities of this exciting field. I attended a few legal division sessions and events to learn about an area of librarianship that has always been interesting to me. I learned that maybe data management isn’t my favorite thing, so I should cross that off my lengthy list.

I learned that, despite my concerns about too many options, the flexibility of the skills I am cultivating as an information professional is the key to success in whichever setting I may find myself – that maybe instead of finding my one path, I should be ready to take any!

*Pro tip: Go to at least one session that you don’t think you would enjoy. That CI class I mentioned above? That was a session I had no interest in beforehand, but forced myself to go. It ended up being one of my favorite sessions and opened up many potential career opportunities!* 

**Community-building fun**
The most significant thing I brought home with me from this conference is something that may seem cliché, but I’m sticking with it anyways. More than anything else, SLA 2017 gave me a sense of belonging in a professional community in which I am just getting started.

I met the coolest men and women doing the coolest things in their workplaces all over the country. From a creative agriculture librarian from Texas with grand makerspace dreams to other students just getting started like me, I found inspiration and friends all around me. I danced the night away at the IT Dance Party. I participated enthusiastically in the Click! photo game, seeing the sites of Phoenix and haranguing people into taking photo with me that I probably would not otherwise have talked to. I attended the wrong division dinner reception by mistake and met great people in the process.

I walked away from SLA 2017 with fond memories and new friends, people who understand this great profession and can help me to grow and adapt with it as it continues to evolve in ever-exciting ways.

*Pro tip: Apply for annual conference stipends. They allow you to experience awesome things! Thank you to SLA New England for this incredible opportunity, I could not be more grateful!* 

Kelly Bunting
Masters Candidate, Library & Information Science: Archives Management and History
Simmons College
Come join the Connecticut Library Consortium and SLA New England in Middletown, CT to discuss the SLA Conference and issues facing special librarians!

Host: Ellen G. Janpol
Date: Tuesday, September 26th, 2017
Time: 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM
Location: Tuscany Grill, 120 College Street, Middletown, CT 06457 map
Carpooling information: https://www.carpoolworld.com/carpooling.html?c=newengland_sla
RSVP by Friday, September 22, 2017 at https://clc-slanedinearound.eventbrite.com
Cost: Only what you eat and drink!
Contact: Ellen G. Janpol ejanpol"at"westportlibrary.org
Call for 2018 SLA New England President – Elect Nominations

August 21, 2017 Categories: News & Notes

We are looking for the next SLA New England President-Elect! This role is a chapter board position that prepares the office holder for the SLA New England President position. It is a wonderful and rewarding opportunity to engage with fellow librarians and information professionals. You have the opportunity to define with board members the chapter’s vision for the next two years.

You can find below more details about this position, and please note that we list only a small number of benefits. Your commitment to this role is time well spent in your professional development and in supporting the future of our profession. The Board has also streamlined responsibilities of all board members to ensure a Work – Life – SLA balance.

President-Elect Key Requirements

- Learn about chapter operations, members, and history to prepare for his/her Presidency.
- Lead Membership Engagement Efforts. S/he will focus on creating content to engage member and recruit new members. S/he will work closely with the Membership Chair, Paula Cohen and her committee.
- Attend 2018 and 2019 Annual Conferences. The chapter provides a travel stipend.

How much time per week should you expect to commit to this role? Over a 52 week period, expect to spend ~3 hours per week. Also you will be a part of a fantastic team of officers and chairs.

President-Elect Key Benefits:

- Grow and Build Your Professional Community – locally and globally.
- Enhance your professional standing. You are a leader and known as such by an organization with ~5,000 members that span the globe!
- Develop critical skills such as project management, delegation, public speaking, and negotiation that will help in your career advancement.
- Learn to lead and build a team. You will lead a team in supporting the networking and professional needs of New England librarians and information professionals.
- Share your knowledge with others. Learn to be a leader and mentor future leaders.

Personally, as a Past-President of this chapter, I have been able to connect with peers from around the world and this has given me the opportunity to learn how this profession is constantly changing and that has helped me personally and professionally. Also, as a leader, there is nothing better than building connections and knowing that I have contributed in some way to someone’s professional growth. And this was all due to the fact that I had this opportunity.

Want to learn more?

If you are interested in the President-Elect role or want to nominate a person, please contact anyone on the Nominating Committee members via SLA Connect by Monday, September 25th.

Nominating Committee

Khalilah Gambrell – Chair

Nancy Burt

Cynthia Cheng Correia

Mary Chitty
SLA New England 2017 Fall Conference

August 24, 2017 Categories: Conferences, News & Notes

Colleagues, please consider attending the SLA New England 2017 Fall conference, on Friday, October 13th at the Conference Center at Waltham Woods, in Waltham Massachusetts. This is a small conference capped at 100 people. The theme of the conference is incremental steps in cultivating, productive partnerships, and the right skill sets.

Conference purpose:

Bring librarians and vendors together to discuss the merits of annual conferences. We want to engage in real dialog about what works, and doesn’t work in conference forums. In an effort to make the un-discussable discussable we will be aided by professional actors who will frame the initial discussions for us in a humorous way. By the end of the conference we hope to have a template of types of programming and formats, which librarians/vendors find useful, and start to strategize how we might bring those plans to fruition.

Included in the day’s discourse is a conversation about the “right skills” which delves into an ongoing larger discussion of hiring non MLS holders for evolving library positions. Eileen Abels, Dean of the Simmons School of Library and Information Science will introduce the topic.

Click here to register for the event.

Schedule

8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.

Breakfast | Breakfast Activity – Evaluating Our Partnerships

9:30 a.m.

Welcome | Conference Overview

Problem Space – Refers to the entire range of components that exist in the process of finding a solution to a problem. Come watch the drama unfold as the “Dramatics” summarize with satire and humor, the problem space that inspired this conference. The “Dramatics” are a group of librarians and publishing vendors showcasing their acting skills.

10:00 a.m. to 11:15

Panel Discussion: How are the skillsets necessary to run today's libraries changing the nature of librarianship?

Perspectives – Educators vs. Employers | MLS/MLIS degrees vs. “Other”

Moderator: Anne Graham, Civil and Environmental Engineering Librarian and GIS Liaison, MIT
Presenter: Eileen Abels, Dean of Simmons School of Library and Information Science
Presenter: Chris Bourg, Director of MIT Libraries

11:30 a.m.

Session: Partnerships & Disruptive Technologies

When a new technology is born, how do relevant stakeholders come together? How do we nurture the new technology, shape it, and bring together different parts of our ecosystem to make it something truly great. FOLIO is one example of such a disruptive technology, and there are many others. With FOLIO specifically, the panel will discuss what we’ve done well and what we could and should be doing differently. We will also broaden the conversation beyond FOLIO to help all of us understand how to create partnerships to embrace and take full advantage of the changes.

Moderator: Kim Maxwell, Electronic Resources Management Librarian, MIT
Presenter: Harry Kaplanian, Sr. Director, Product Management, EBSCO Information Services
Presenter: Jesse Koennecke, Director of Acquisitions and E-Resource Licensing Services, Cornell University
Presenter: Nicholas H. Ypsilantis, President and CEO of AccuFile

12:45 p.m. Lunch

Short talk: The Closing of the Draper Library

On July 6th, the Draper Library was eliminated and its staff laid off. What happened? Could it have been prevented? Upon reflection are there lessons to be learned?
Introduction of Speaker: Brandy King, Head of Information Services, Arnold P. Gold Foundation

Presenter: Betty Edwards, former Draper Library Manager

1:45 p.m. to 2:45 p.m.

Session:

Changing Roles & Essential Skills

Moderator: Maureen Festa, Senior Research Analyst, Office of Prospect Research, MIT

The Art of Deduction: Business Analysis approaches for librarians

A business analysis perspective can uncover root causes of problems, reveal potential solutions, and bring to light new opportunities for relationship building with our user communities. This brief overview of business analysis concepts will fuel our panel discussion.

Presenter: Christine Quirion, Head, Technology Planning, Integration, and Experience, MIT

BI? CI? MI? A holistic look at data analysis

Business intelligence, market intelligence and competitive intelligence are all separate methods of analyzing data using unique sources. What are the differences and what would a holistic analysis look like? Participants will have an opportunity to practice what they learned.

Presenter: Jennifer Swanson, MLS, MBA and PMP

3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Session: Tactical Alliances – Are the right people @ the table?

IP Filtering is Dead. What’s next?

IP filtering as an authentication method has led us into a technological cul-de-sac. This presentation highlights problems associated with IP filtering, and the work publishers and subscribers need to engage in to chart a new course. The RA21 initiative is an example of how vendors and subscribers can work together in an open process, to find a way forward.

Presenter: Rich Wegner, E-Resource Systems Manager, MIT

Working Together – Enablers and Inhibitors

Come hear lessons from an experienced information provider who worked many years for some of the top publishers who will share some industry insights of how librarians and their vendor partners might work more collaboratively in the scholarly communications process.

Presenter: Geoffrey Adams, Retired, former Director of Information Technology Solutions at Elsevier

4:05 p.m. to 4:35 p.m.

Conference Wrap Up – Documenting the Path Forward with Zines

Rhonda Kauffman, Bibliographic Metadata Associate, MIT

Bridgett Pride, Simmons LIS Student

Thank you to our amazing sponsors, the Aerospace section (Engineering Division) and the Leadership and Management Division (LMD)!

Photo credit: Special Libraries Association
Collaborating with your Competitors: Establishing Communities of Practice among Competing Corporate Information Centers

August 27, 2017 Categories: Conferences, News & Notes

In this entry, John Aubrey, Chair of SLA’s Business & Finance Division Corporate Information Center Section (CIC), shares his summary of the panel discussion on “Collaborating with your Competitors: Establishing Communities of Practice among Competing Corporate Information Centers” which took place at this year’s SLA Annual Conference.

An upcoming webinar based on this panel will take place Wednesday, October 4, from 1:00 – 2:00PM EDT; more details will be posted soon on the Business & Finance Division’s website.

This year’s panel discussion focused on the significant benefits that can result from collegial cooperation among Corporate Information Centers from competing organizations. The ethical and judicial sharing of experience and information can afford numerous efficiencies and foster mutual strength and success.

A note about the topic. This is the fourth program I have organized for the CIC and I have stuck with the same programming philosophy for each: I choose a topic I am interested in, but know little about, and then invite a panel of smart, experienced people to share their knowledge and get the conversation started with attendees. Seeing that the annual convention for a cross-industry professional organization is the ultimate Community of Practice, I thought this would be the ideal venue for examining the topic further. It has been my impression that people are often fearful of this concept, worrying that bounds will be crossed and that vital, competitive information may inadvertently be shared. My hope was that an open discussion of the topic would help form the basis of understanding and encourage more people to join forces with their (competing) colleagues.

Panel Members:

- Monica Mooney Ertel, Director of Global Information Services, Bain & Company;
- Barbara Hirsh, Director, Information Resources & Knowledge Management, NERA Economic Consulting;
- Marie Nardi, Senior Intelligence Analyst, Sanofi Genzyme
- Panel Organizer and Moderator: John Aubrey, Associate Director, Information Sciences, Vertex Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

Meeting sponsored by AlphaSense – opening remarks by VP of Business Development, Nouri Chibane

37 attendees joined us for breakfast at the inhospitable hour of 7:30am and joined us in a lively and informative discussion. Participants came from a variety of industries, ranging from professional services companies, manufacturing, and retail products, to independent information professionals, universities, and technology. This diversity lent an interesting twist to the conversation, as it quickly became clear that the tolerance for cooperation among competitors is not shared across industries.

Some of the main points covered in the discussion included:

- Various forms these community can take;
- How they can be organized;
- Best practices and recipes for success;
- How to avoid conflicts and potential pitfalls;
- What Communities of Practice can achieve and what they cannot;
- Strategies for getting management on board;

Monica Mooney Ertel and Barbara Hirsh were the two panelists with the most experience with these Communities, while Marie and I are in the midst of setting up one of these communities among Pharma information Professionals in the Boston area.

Monica spoke of her early days at Apple, where Steve Jobs asked her to set up the corporate library, and how she quickly found and became involved with the Industrial Technical Information Managers Group (ITIMG) as a way of getting to know more about her new industry. Barbara echoed the positive experience with the cross-industry version of these Communities, citing her long experience with The Conference Board. Both have gone on to work with other, similar Communities, and have consistently experienced supportive groups whose primary mission is to share information and solve common problems. Barbara pointed out that these Communities can also exist within a single company or under the same umbrella organization. A conglomerate might have numerous corporate information centers among their holdings, while a large corporation might have information specialists embedded throughout. These Communities are excellent vehicles for sharing resources, experiences, and encouraging efficiencies.

Marie shared her experience in starting her own Community among Pharma information professionals in Boston: reaching out to colleagues, gauging interest, and finding like-minded individuals who would help organize the group and recruit new members. She shared how the group’s first meeting happened to be at the SLA Pharma Division’s Annual Meeting and that the small group soon attracted a good number of newcomers, out of sheer interest.

It was during this part of the discussion that the topic of seeking Management approval came up. Some in attendance shared an “act first and ask forgiveness later” philosophy, while others felt strongly that direct approval was of paramount importance. One attendee shared that their employment contract stipulated that they couldn’t even be in the same room with an information professional from a competing company. This underscored the need for a strong understanding of your company culture and their tolerance for cooperation before moving forward with a group like this.

An understanding of the value proposition of a Community of Practice is another useful tool in making the case to Management. What can you learn by attending and what kind of problems can you hope to solve? What can be shared, and what avoided? Clearly, many things are off the table: trade secrets, strategic plans, and insider information would have no place in these meetings. Same, too, with discussing details of vendor pricing (most vendor contracts forbid customers from comparing notes on price). But that doesn’t mean that customers can’t compare notes on other aspects of common information products. These Communities are helpful places to discuss service levels, content, development, and even tips on how best to leverage a resource’s capabilities. One of the first examples I ever witnessed of a Community of Practice was a user group made up of highly competitive companies who came together to figure out how to improve a shared, but seriously flawed, resource.
Best practices were at the core of most of the discussions. The conversation touched on how to set ground rules and parameters; Barbara recommended the Chatham House Rule, which is a simple framework for keeping any sensitive content within the confines of the Community. Ultimately, it was stressed, a group like this must be founded on a basis of trust. If members don’t believe they can openly discuss issues related to their shared profession, then it is highly unlikely that anything constructive can come from meeting. The issue of trust may influence some aspects of a Community, such as size or focus. Is it easier to establish trust with smaller or greater numbers? A consensus was arrived at that identifying a common goal was a good option to keep members focused on the helpful and establish a feeling of community within the Community.

Another helpful observation was that these Communities are not a new phenomenon and that a great deal of work and research has already gone into them. One resource mentioned was the important work Robin Neidorf is doing at Jinfo, establishing virtual Communities across many areas involved in information and allowing for unprecedented benchmarking capabilities.

As with any conversation, this panel was a starting point, but the variety of attendees lent it a broad application. If you are interested in learning more about the topic, or perhaps weighing in with your own questions and experiences, the B&F Division will be sponsoring a webinar based on this panel on Wednesday, October 4, from 1:00 – 2:00PM EDT. The webinar will feature the same panel, but due to a conflict, I will be replaced by the very talented Cynthia Cheng Correia. Please visit the B&F website for details or contact Betsy Clementson, Director of Professional Development.

The Corporate Information Center Section would like to thank AlphaSense for their generous sponsorship and the Business & Finance Division for their support for this programming. We would also like to thank everyone who attended and contributed to such an interesting conversation.

John Aubrey, Chair
Business & Finance Division Corporate Information Center Section (CIC)
Sign up to be a Day on the Job Host by October 1st

August 31, 2017 Categories: Professional Development, Programs

Day on the Job (DOTJ) is a popular program enabling students to meet with practicing LIS professionals and to learn more about working in a special library environment. The program has proven to be highly beneficial to past hosts and students as it’s an opportunity to connect and learn from each other.

DOTJ does not consist of a particular day or format, rather date and time can be negotiated between the student and host. The format could be a day-long job shadow, an interview, a library tour, or in-depth conversation.

To sign up please email SLA NE Student Relations Co-Chairs Jill Aberdale (jillian.aberdale@gmail.com) and / or Katie Glasoe (glakat210@gmail.com) by October 1st, 2017. Once you have been matched with your student, an email introduction will be sent by the second week in October.
CI For Beginners, Part 1: What the heck is Insight Work?

September 1, 2017 Categories: News & Notes

In the first of a two-part series, Victoria Richard, Chair Elect of SLA’s Competitive Intelligence Division, gives us an inside look at her session from Phoenix: Competitive Intelligence for Beginners. Part two: Engaging the Process is now available!

When I accepted the invitation to deliver a session on the fundamentals of competitive intelligence (CI) at the 2017 SLA annual conference, I clearly deluded myself about the ease of teaching insight work.

“No problem”, I said to myself as I sat down at my keyboard. “I’ll bang this presentation out in a weekend.”

Three weeks passed, and I still had a blank PowerPoint presentation. My calendar had time blocked off to work on this; that particular appointment was moved at least half a dozen times. I found new ways to procrastinate, including the reorganization of my entire apartment. Finally, the conference was just a few weeks away, and I had precious little to present, except a folder containing a collection of cat GIFs and Game of Thrones memes.

What was the holdup? I was stumped. One Sunday afternoon, I forced myself to sit at the keyboard and vomit words, hoping that I could tear down this writer’s block that had established some deep roots while I was delaying the inevitable. In the paragraph of nonsense that tumbled from my fingers, I asked one question in about four different ways—what ARE the basic building blocks of CI?

And thus, I found the source of my problem, and ultimately the foundation of my presentation. When asked what intelligence work is, the answer is complicated. It is not one particular thing. It’s a group of skills—primary and secondary research, qualitative and quantitative inquiry, relationship building, critical thinking, technological acumen, creativity, and business know-how … the list goes on, and on, and on.

It is much easier to answer what intelligence work DOES—it provides a 360-degree view of the past, present, and potential futures for a particular set of problems. The typical definition says something like “Competitive Intelligence is the art of turning ethically-collected data into actionable insights and strategies”. However, I think this definition is a bit too theoretical—it lacks practicality and application.

First, let’s take “competitive” out of the equation, and focus on intelligence in general. Insight work (another way to describe intelligence work) covers a lot of ground. Yes, an insight worker will be defining and assessing competitors. However, they will also need to understand the industries and markets their clients play in, and how they are changing. They will need to understand the technical features of relevant products, and the marketing around products and services being built and sold. They will need to understand the vendors and partner networks who sell those products and services. Important and often overlooked, they will also need to understand customers and their pain points.

Second, the word “actionable” always makes me cringe. Yes, it’s a bit of business jargon (ugh), but it is also generic to the point of being almost useless.

So, let’s turn to the original purveyor of intelligence work—the CIA. How do they define intelligence? A basic paraphrasing is that intelligence work is any activity that helps us understand or influence foreign entities. Taking this definition and reworking it for our purposes, we get something akin to “Intelligence is a set of internal activities to help understand and influence corporate strategy, deals, competitors, markets, and customers.” Ah! A definition that encompasses all that our intelligence work might touch on, and a description of the actual desired end state—understanding AND influence. Good. Now what does that mean?

This definition highlights the fundamental shift that grows info pros into intelligence professionals: moving from a reactive fostering of understanding, to a proactive use of understanding to influence outcomes.

This is where a chart comes in handy. (Please forgive my lack of artistic skills.)

This chart was a lot more amusing in person, thanks to all those GIFs and GoT memes I collected during my procrastination.

In the lower left, we have a researcher who is basically doing nothing to provide understanding of a situation, or influence potential movement around it. Imagine a college kid paraphrasing Wikipedia when asked to describe how Rome was built, and that about sums it up. I am confident that most people reading this article are not providing this level of service to their clients.
The upper left is where most info pros live. It is not a bad place to be! People who live in this quadrant are consistently fostering understanding, they are great at helping to figure out what the real questions are (beyond what your stakeholders think the questions are)... And they are probably providing all the necessary inputs to those answers—who to be concerned about, what’s happening in the environment, and so on. They might even be doing some forecasting about potential movement in the market or from competitors.

The upper left and lower right are basically opposites. The lower right is best explained with an example: It is that person who, when asked what action someone should take, they answer with “Well, my gut says…” while simultaneously refusing to prove that “gut feeling” with data. When you work in a field for long enough, you certainly develop a sort of sixth sense about how things work. However, it is the height of hubris and incredibly myopic to think that you can predict what other people (and by extension, their companies) are going to do based on your own “gut”. You must be willing and able to take in external data and view it objectively—and be willing to prove your gut “wrong”.

The upper right, as is typical with this type of chart, is where we aspire to be. This is where we are taking our ability to foster understanding, and using that to present weighted, potential options for action (or inaction)—along with the potential consequences of those actions. It’s where we add the “why” to the how, what, where, who, and when; why does this information matter? What should we do with it and why?

It can feel like a huge leap from the upper left to the upper right—and it does usually take a leap of faith in our own abilities to make any major shift in our work. It’s a big change to move from providing information to presenting suggestions for action. Sometimes it takes a huge leap of faith in our leadership’s ability and willingness to consider our suggestions.

The truth is that it usually takes a combination of the two, along with a change in our research patterns. The practical key to grow information into intelligence starts with a shift from your typical research cycle to a more interactive intelligence cycle—which we’ll cover in the second half of this series on CI for Beginners. Stay tuned.
September 13th: SLA New England Lightning Talk: Complete list of presenters and talks

September 6, 2017 Categories: News & Notes, Professional Development

Join us for SLA New England Chapter’s first Lightning Talks, Wednesday, September 13 from 6pm to 8pm at Vertex Pharmaceuticals. Special thanks to EBSCO for sponsoring and Vertex Pharmaceuticals for hosting this event.

Registration Fee: SLA Members: $10, SLA Members (Students): $5, Non-Members: $15.

RSVP by Monday, September 11th – https://slane2017lightningtalks.eventbrite.com/ (Dinner is included with registration).

What are Lightning Talks?

If you have not experienced a Lightning Talk before, it is essentially an entire presentation condensed into 8 minutes with no slides. It is a challenging but exciting presentation format. Our speakers, several of your fellow New England Chapter members, will engage you in topics ranging from Taxonomy to Data Visualization to Astronomical libraries, and more.

Lightning Talk Presenters

- Edee Edwards (Taxonomy and Metadata Librarian, National Fire Protection Association) | Talk: Metrics and Taxonomy
- Ashleigh Faith (Semantic Enrichment Manager, EBSCO Information Services) | Talk: Linked Data Searching
- Sally Gore (Research Evaluation Analyst, UMass Center for Clinical & Translational Science) | Talk: A Picture is Worth a Thousand Data Points
- Victoria Richard (Manager, Competitive Intelligence, Greenberg Traurig, LLP) | Talk: Women leaders in data
- Christina Sirois (Manager of Digital Collections & Content, Harvard Kennedy School) | Talk: Taxonomy of digital content
- Donna Thompson (Librarian, Astrophysics Data System) | Talk: Astronomical databases
Ask a Chapter Past President: What are the benefits of being Chapter President?

September 17, 2017 Categories: News & Notes

Recently we asked several chapter past presidents what were the key benefits of being Chapter President. The responses received had two common themes: 1.) Opportunity to grow as a leader and 2.) Engage with SLA members locally and from around the world.

Past President Ethel M. Salonen summed up best how many chapter past presidents feel: “I would not have had such a wonderful and rewarding career without my involvement with SLA.”

Quotes from other Chapter Past Presidents on the benefits of being Chapter President

“Sense of community, career building and networking, learning to lead by doing and drawing inspiration from fellow professionals.” Devon McArdle – 2013 Chapter President

“Personally, as a Past-President of this chapter, I have been able to connect with peers from around the world and this has given me the opportunity to learn how this profession is constantly changing and that has helped me personally and professionally. Also, as a leader, there is nothing better than building connections and knowing that I have contributed in some way to someone’s professional growth. And this was all due to the fact that I had this opportunity.” Khalilah Gambrell – 2012, 2016 Chapter President

“I got to know many local colleagues in many different job settings. I developed my leadership skills and went on to chair a division, serve on the SLA board, chair an SLA annual conference, and later become SLA president. As chapter president-elect, I was responsible, with a good team, for planning the year’s programs, and this was my favorite part of the experience. Finally, as chapter president, I participated in SLA-wide conferences and expanded my network nationally and internationally.” Ruth Kertzer Seidman – 1981 Chapter President and 1990 SLA President

“The bulk of my success has been a combination of luck and my years of leadership involvement with SLA. Learning how to lead a team of volunteers and helping them to succeed, naturally transfers to the same skills in a work setting. I would not have had such a wonderful and rewarding career without my involvement with SLA.” Ethel M. Salonen – 1988 Chapter President and 2004 SLA President

“Reaching out to chapter members, as well as regional members, to understand how we could serve members best — through outstanding programming, networking, educational experiences, etc. Celebrating our accomplishments — anniversaries and past presidents. Working with other regional associations to discuss common calendars, programming potential, etc. Working with our business partners to find win-wins such as holding a program in a local business office or have expertise provided to members from business partners.” Dee Magnoni – 2005 Chapter President and Current SLA President

SLA New England is seeking a President Elect for 2018 who would become President in 2019. If you would like to experience the benefits outlined in this post, please contact any of the members of SLA New England Nominating Committee via SLA Connect. Also we encourage you to review this post that provides more details on this exciting and meaningful opportunity.

SLA New England Nominating Committee

Khalilah Gambrell – Chair

Nancy Burt

Cynthia Cheng Correia

Mary Chitty
In this final part of a two-part series, Victoria Richard, Chair Elect of SLA’s Competitive Intelligence Division, gives us an inside look at her session from Phoenix: Competitive Intelligence for Beginners. If you haven’t already, check out part one: What the heck is insight work?

Welcome back! If you’ve checked out Part 1, then you are familiar with the general outcomes of intelligence work—“Intelligence is a set of internal activities to help understand and influence corporate strategy, deals, competitors, markets, and customers.” But now we have come to a very practical question: How do we actually DO this work?

I think, at this point, most people would expect me to come in with a list of primary research techniques, secondary research methods and sources, web searching tips and tricks, database scraping APIs, knowledge management platforms, et cetera, et cetera.

Let’s slow your roll for a moment here. Before you dive into the tools you’ll need to do your job, you need to have a clear definition of what it is you are working towards. Crazy, right? To that end, this post will focus on defining the boundaries of your work via your Key Intelligence Topics (KITs), along with explaining the “intelligence cycle”.

Jan Herring wrote a great in-depth article with practical examples of what your KITs might look like, although the article does assume a luxury of being able to dedicate 100% of your focus to competitors. It’s true that if you are working for an enterprise, you likely have teams dedicated to each specific type of intelligence. If you are on your own, or in a small company, you are likely doing a little CI, a little MI, and so on. I like to think that working in this field is a bit like choosing your own adventure. Each path you decide to take will come with its own learning curve and challenges, but ultimately, your outcome is 100% yours to create. That said, lots of people say “I do competitive intelligence!” and act like it exists in a silo. If we are brutally, completely honest, you will have absolutely zero understanding of the competitors if you don’t also understand your market and industries, your clients/customers and other sociological, economic, and political forces at play.

So what might your KITs look like? Take a look at the slide below for some (very generic and high-level) examples.

![Planning your work: Choose your own adventure](http://newengland.sla1.org/?post-type=post&show_title=1&show_date...367 of 428 3/24/2019 3:28 PM)
No matter what the breakdown of intelligence coverage is with your organization, if you decide to take on intelligence work, be aware that your KITs are never as simple as “tell us what competitors X, Y, and Z are doing”. Where is the value in that? Instead, ask what competitive and market forces do you need to constantly monitor. Define output necessary for your sales teams, your strategy teams, and your marketers to be successful. Outline what capabilities you (or your team) have in place to get the work done, and which ones you will need to build.

It’s another assumption of luxury to think that we will be able to define KITs before the work begins. Often times, folks who assume intelligence responsibilities are stepping into a role where there are already expectations and requests waiting, before they even step in the door. The reality is that we are often creating KITs as a result of churning through some of this more reactive, short-sighted work—and that’s absolutely okay (and necessary, much of the time.)

For example, I was once asked to produce a one-pager comparing two products from companies who were not direct competitors of ours. It wasn’t clear to me why we cared. Our products weren’t comparable to theirs, our business models were different, and our pricing was pennies compared to theirs. I engaged the stakeholder in a conversation about it, and it turned out that there was a partnership opportunity with both companies. Initially, the request would have produced a mostly useless reactive competitive product comparison. I used that work to start a conversation with my stakeholder, and turned the project into a proactive short-term forecast of both company’s market viability and potential product roadmaps, along with pinpointing examples where a partnership might help or hurt us. It included a little bit of CI, a little bit of MI, and a little bit of BI (to benchmark our own financials). And it became an ongoing KIT for us to monitor.

Once you’ve had some time (and some conversations) to help suss out the various foci of your work, then, it will be time to start producing intelligence. There is mostly a consensus around the “intelligence cycle” as an academic framework for insight work. I won’t go into it in depth here, except to say that the typical model is a bit too linear and rigid for my liking. It looks something like this:

![Intelligence Cycle Diagram](https://fas.org/irp/nsa/ioss/threat96/figure1.gif)

In reality, the process is messy, it’s often non-linear, and your activities change on the spot based on your individual organization’s focus and needs. The process also needs to involve constant feedback and socialization of ideas, findings and potential output throughout the process. The output should be less of a “TA DA!!!” moment, and more of a “As we’ve discussed…” conversation. Below is how I visualize the process, in a very, very, very, very generalized way.
I clearly never aced Penmanship in elementary school.

So, how do we take this academic model of intelligence, and put it to work? Let’s briefly break down the steps.

**Planning:** Don’t read too much into this—it’s exactly what it sounds like. What question are you trying to answer? What scenario are you trying to plan for? What outcome are you trying to achieve? The planning phase simply allows you the time to figure out things such as:

- What data you will need to collect & where you’ll find it
- What resources and capabilities you will need & how you’ll acquire them
- Timeline for completion of the various pieces of the process
- Catalog assumptions and dependencies

That list is not all-inclusive, but you get the idea.

**Data collection and analysis:** Some people think this is the bulk of the work you’ll do. That might be true when you are a brand new CI analyst. The truth is that the research work—provided you have defined your KITs well, and you are familiar with the best resources to quickly obtain and churn the data you need—should be a relatively small portion of your time.

**Provide Recommendations:** Remember the definition of intelligence work from Part 1? Understanding, and influencing. What should our stakeholders DO, based on our findings? What are the potential consequences of that course of action? And why is our recommendation the best path forward? This is the step that so many intelligence professionals struggle with, but where our value mostly resides. Anyone can gain the data we’ve collected; anyone can apply various analytical techniques. However, very few people have the perspective that we have curated as a result of our KIT creation and ongoing conversations with stakeholders. No one else will know what is keeping them up at night, or how to solve it. That’s where your recommendations come in.

Finally, gathering feedback and socializing ideas. This isn’t a step in the process, so much as an overarching driver of activity. It’s a fallacy that feedback only needs to happen before presenting the final product. You should be engaging with your stakeholders throughout the entire process. What happens if you engage to define your KITs, and not again until the final presentation?

Imagine that you’ve spent 40 hours doing enhanced SWOT analyses for 10 competitors of your core product or service. You schedule a meeting with your marketing director to review your findings, only to hear that the day after you started the work, it was decided (but not yet announced) that your core service would be sunsetting in 18 months. How would that information impact your analysis? I have a feeling it would completely change your outcomes. You’ll need to build relationships with your stakeholders, so you are able to bounce ideas and works-in-progress off them before that work becomes a final recommendation. A good rule of thumb is that your stakeholders should never be seeing your output for the first (or second, or third) time during the “final” presentation.

So, that’s my take on “CI for Beginners”. If you have a good grasp on your KITs and the expected outcomes from your work, feel free to message me for links to some excellent analysis tools and resources. Also, mark your calendars for June 2018, as the CI Division is planning on having a few practical analysis workshops and panels at the next SLA Annual Conference. We’re also lining up a stellar roster of CI professionals for our 2018 webinars, so please keep up with us at [http://ci.sla.org](http://ci.sla.org), on twitter (@SLA_CID), or via our open SLA Connect community.
2017 Fall Conference – List of speakers
October 1, 2017 Categories: Conferences, News & Notes, Programs

Click here to register for the event!

SLA New England
2017 Fall Conference
Friday, October 13
8:30 – 16:30
Conference Center at Waltham Woods (Waltham, MA)

Click here to register for the event!

Presenters:

Eileen Abels, Dean of Simmons School of Library and Information Science

As Dean of the Simmons School of Library and Information Science (SLIS), Eileen brings more than 30 years of award-winning expertise in library and information science to the school to help prepare 21st century information professionals for work in libraries, archives, information institutions, and cultural heritage organizations. Specializing in digital reference, she oversaw ipl2, a digital library resulting from the merger of the Internet Public Library and the Librarian’s Internet Index. Her current research interests focus on the future of reference services, libraries, and library and information science education. Eileen will be revisiting themes from this paper, “Envisioning our information future” during the panel.
Geoffrey Adams, Former director of Information Technology Solutions, Elsevier

Geoffrey Adams spent over 10 years as Director of Information Technology Solutions at Elsevier overseeing a global team of IT consultants and working closely with Elsevier’s production and R&D staff to define and develop new electronic products and services. He founded and was appointed Program Director for Elsevier’s Strategic Partners Program. In this role he worked with an international group of highly innovative institutions exploring the future uses of technology in library environments. Prior to joining Elsevier, he was with Digital Equipment Corporation (DEC) managing business and technical consultants serving major media industry clients in the U.S.A.

Chris Bourg, Director of MIT Libraries

Chris is the Director of Libraries at MIT and served as co-chair of an MIT community Task Force that created a “set of proposals aimed at steering MIT’s library system toward becoming an ‘open global platform’ enabling the ‘discovery, use, and stewardship of information and knowledge’ for future generations.” Before heading to MIT, Chris was the associate university librarian for public services at Stanford University. Chris recently discussed some of these themes on her blog post entitled “What happens to libraries and librarians when machines can read all the books”.

Betty Edwards, Former Draper Library Manager

Betty Edwards joined Draper as a Senior Research Analyst and was subsequently promoted to Library Manager. Prior to this, she was with the law firm Seyfarth Shaw —initially as a law librarian and then in a firm-wide marketing and business development role. In addition to these two positions, she brings wide-ranging experience from the online provider world, having worked for Outsell, Primark/Disclosure, and ProQuest Dialog. She’s been an active member of SLA on both the local and national levels and has held a number of leadership positions such as New England Chapter President, Legal Division Treasurer, and Engineering Division Program Planner for the annual conference. Betty was named a Fellow of the Association in 2008.

Harry Kaplanian, Sr. Director, Product Management, EBSCO Information Services

Harry Kaplanian is currently Sr. Director, Product Management, EBSCO Information Services where he currently represents product management and related processes for the FOLIO project. Prior to FOLIO, Harry was Sr. Director of Product management responsible for the EBSCO Host platform and Library Management services. Harry was Director of Product Management for Serials Solutions, worked for Microsoft developing Live Search Books, served as VP of Development at Mandarin Library Automation and previously Director of Development at SIRS Publishing.
Rhonda Kauffman, Bibliographic Metadata Associate, MIT

Rhonda Kauffman is the Bibliographic Metadata Associate at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). Since joining the MIT Libraries in 2015 Rhonda manages the cataloging workflows and conducts original and enhanced copy cataloging of tangible materials in all formats. She has served on the Collections Directorate’s Diversity, Inclusion, and Social Justice Task Force which aimed to suggest strategies for including these values into everyday collections work. She has also been an active member of the Zine Librarians Interest Group (zinelibraries.info), which is currently working on creating the Zine Union Catalog, an open source catalog of bibliographic zine metadata. Rhonda has made zines since the 1990s and after discovering cataloging in graduate school she has had a particular interest in researching and innovating the intersection of these two fields ever since.

Jesse Koennecke, Director of Acquisitions and E-Resource Licensing Services, Cornell University

Jesse Koennecke is the Director of Acquisitions & E-Resource Licensing Services at the Cornell University Library, where he serves on the Senior Management Team for Technical Services.

Emily Poworoznek, Engineering & Physical Science Librarian, Associate Professor, University of New Hampshire

Emily Poworoznek serves as subject librarian for most of UNH’s College of Engineering & Physical Sciences, providing professional supervision for three branch libraries: Chemistry; Physics; and Engineering, Mathematics & Computer Science. This keeps her grounded in the realities of patron service. She belongs to several SLA divisions and caucuses, though most active in SLA-PAM of which she is a past chair, and holds an MLIS, MS in Botany, and BA in Liberal Arts. She believes that strong partnerships are built when independence is honored.

Bridgett Pride, Simmons SLIS Student

Bridgett Kathryn Pride is a third year dual degree Library Science student at Simmons College studying Archives and History. She serves as the Simmons
College Library and Information Science Student Association (LISSA) President, is the project manager of the 2018 student run, Diversity, Equity, Race, Accessibility, and Identity (DERAIL) conference, and is a co-chair for the Simmons chapter of the Progressive Librarians Guild. Bridgett is currently the Learning Commons Library Assistant at Simmons’ Beatley Library, where she works closely with students to help reflect their interests through library programming, including zine workshops, open mic nights, and displays, in addition to managing the service desk.

Christine Quirion, Head, Technology Planning, Integration, and Experience, MIT

Christine Quirion is the Head of Technology Planning, Integration and Experience in the MIT Libraries, she has led the team that provides project management, business analysis, user experience and web services since 2015. Prior to working in library technology, Christine has 15 years of experience leading teams and projects in the MIT Libraries focused on information delivery, access to library collections and services, resource sharing, and digitization. Christine earned an MS in Library and Information Science from Simmons College, a BA from the University of Connecticut. She is a Certified Scrum Master (CSM).

Jennifer Swanson, MLS, MBA and PMP

Jennifer has over thirty years’ experience in research and analysis working in many different industries as both a marketing strategy consultant and special librarian. Her love of quantitative and qualitative analysis has led her to learning about data visualization, her new favorite skill, and becoming an expert in Excel. Now she’s experimenting with SQL and R.

Rich Wendger, E-Resource Systems Manager, MIT

Rich Wenger has been doing IT work for the MIT Library for 14 years. Prior experience in commercial software firms includes data center management, systems programming, and product development.
Nicholas (Nick) Ypsilantis, President/CEO, AccuFile Inc

Nick is a co-founder, President and CEO of AccuFile, positions he has held since the firm was established in 1986. Altogether, he brings more than 30 years of financial executive and entrepreneurial experience to the firm, having previously served as an audit manager for a local Certified Public Accounting firm, T.B. Donnelly & Co., and as Accounting manager and Assistant Treasurer for an international managerial consulting firm, Putnam, Hayes and Bartlett, Inc.

Thank you to our amazing sponsors for the 2017 Conference: the Academic Division, the Aerospace section (Engineering Division), the Engineering Division, the Leadership and Management Division (LMD), and a special shout-out to the MIT Libraries!
Fall Conference Spotlight – Changing nature of librarianship

October 2, 2017 Categories: Conferences, News & Notes, Professional Development, Programs

The 2017 fall conference is only a few short weeks away! We hope you will join us in an exciting conversation on future-ready skills!

Click here to register for the event!

SLA New England
2017 Fall Conference
Friday, October 13
8:30 – 16:30
Conference Center at Waltham Woods (Waltham, MA)

Session spotlight:

Panel Discussion: How are the skillsets necessary to run today’s libraries changing the nature of librarianship?

Perspectives – Educators vs. Employers | MLS/MLIS degrees vs. “Other”

Eileen Abels, Dean of Simmons School of Library and Information Science

As Dean of the Simmons School of Library and Information Science (SLIS), Eileen brings more than 30 years of award-winning expertise in library and information science to the school to help prepare 21st century information professionals for work in libraries, archives, information institutions, and cultural heritage organizations. Specializing in digital reference, she oversaw ipl2, a digital library resulting from the merger of the Internet Public Library and the Librarian’s Internet Index. Her current research interests focus on the future of reference services, libraries, and library and information science education. Eileen
will be revisiting themes from this paper, “Envisioning our information future” during the panel.

Chris Bourg, Director of MIT Libraries

Chris is the Director of Libraries at MIT and served as co-chair of an MIT community Task Force that created a “set of proposals aimed at steering MIT’s library system toward becoming an ‘open global platform’ enabling the ‘discovery, use, and stewardship of information and knowledge’ for future generations.” Chris recently discussed some of these themes on her blog, “What happens to libraries and librarians when machines can read all the books?”

Click here to register for the event!

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Fall Conference Spotlight – Betty Edwards

October 3, 2017 Categories: Conferences, News & Notes, Professional Development, Programs

Our second session spotlight focuses on our lunch speaker and chapter member, Betty Edwards.

SLA New England

2017 Fall Conference

Friday, October 13

8:30am – 4:30pm

Conference Center at Waltham Woods (Waltham, MA)

Session spotlight:

The Closing of the Draper Library

On July 6th, the Draper Library was eliminated and its staff laid off. What happened? Could it have been prevented? Upon reflection are there lessons to be learned?

Betty Edwards

Betty Edwards, Former Draper Library Manager

Betty Edwards joined Draper as a Senior Research Analyst and was subsequently promoted to Library Manager. Prior to this, she was with the law firm Seyfarth Shaw — initially as a law librarian and then in a firm-wide marketing and business development role. In addition to these two positions, she brings wide-ranging experience from the online provider world, having worked for Outsell, Primark/Disclosure, and ProQuest Dialog. She’s been an active member of SLA on both the local and national levels and has held a number of leadership positions such as New England Chapter President, Legal Division Treasurer, and Engineering Division Program Planner for the annual conference. Betty was named a Fellow of the Association in 2008.

Click here to register for the event!

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October 19, 2017 Categories: Dine around, News & Notes

Come join library school students and fellow information professionals in Boston at the Audobon.

RSVP by Monday, 23 October 2017
Host: Jill Aberdale, Kelly Bunting and Katie Glasoe (Contact Katie for any questions as host)
Date: Tuesday, 25 October 2017
Time: 18:00 to 20:00

Location: 838 Beacon Street, Boston, MA 02215

Interested in carpooling with your fellow #slaers?, please refer to the SLA New England carpooling site.
Call for ResumeX Volunteers

SLA@Simmons, the Simmons College student chapter of the Special Libraries Association, is very excited to be planning our Fall 2017 ResumeX event! ResumeX is a speed dating style career development workshop in which LIS professionals review current graduate students’ resumes and cover letters, offering constructive feedback for improvement.

This is your chance to support new and upcoming LIS professionals in their transition from students to professionals. Whether or not your current position and a student’s professional interest align, your experience is a valuable resource to SLIS students who are, or will soon be, on the job hunt.

ResumeX will be held on **Tuesday, November 28th**, at Simmons College. There will be two one-hour rounds of feedback: 5:00-6:00pm and 6:00-7:00pm. Food will be provided.

**If you are interested in volunteering, please email sla@simmons.edu.** In your email, please indicate whether you would like to volunteer for one or both time slots.

This year, we would like to extend our volunteers beyond the Special Library world to make this a professional development event for all SLIS students. If you have a friend or colleague who works in a more traditional library or archives setting, please feel free to share this information with them.

Please contact sla@simmons.edu with any questions.

Thanks in advance for your participation!

Kelly Bunting
President, SLA@Simmons
Join the chapter as it honors outstanding volunteers and welcomes new chapter leadership at the Annual Business Meeting (ABM) on Tuesday, 5 December between 17:30 and 20:00. The event will conclude with our guest speaker, Alex Lumb (Information Specialist, CDM Smith). Alex will talk about the challenges, opportunities, and lessons learned from CDM Smith’s move from Cambridge to Boston, and subsequent transformation of the InfoCenter into an online information resource.

**Date/Time:** Tuesday, 5 December\(^{th}\)/ 17:30 – 20:00

**Location:** Greenberg Traurig, 1 International Place, Boston (Thank you to Victoria Richard, CI Division’s Chair-Elect for hosting us!)

If attending on-site, please register by Sunday, 3 Dec. Cannot attend in person, please register for virtual access to the ABM.

**Agenda:**

17:30 Registration and Networking

18:15 – 19:15 Annual Business Meeting (Virtual access starts at 18:15)

19:15 – 20:00 Discussion by Alex Lumb on the challenges, opportunities, and lessons learned from losing his dedicated library space and transforming it into an online resource

Looking forward to seeing you in person or virtually!
Donna Thompson (Librarian, Astrophysics Data System) was one of the speakers featured this fall at our Lightning Talks event. Below, Donna provides an overview of her talk, in which she gave us a look into the creation of the Historical Literature Project at the Astrophysics Data System.

The ADS (ads.harvard.edu) has been around since the early 1990s and was online within 2 months of the advent of the worldwide web. Our project is funded by NASA and is available for free use by all. ADS is used daily by astronomers worldwide.

The ADS provides access to literature in the fields of astronomy, physics and astrophysics. From the beginning we have relied upon the cooperation of publishers, scientific societies and librarians. Astronomy is a field in which scientists share their data freely and data from hundreds of years ago is still relevant and referenced. ADS provides a sophisticated search engine to explore the literature of the field.

In the early days of the project the ADS received some abstracting indices from NASA and other sources and this was the beginning of our database. Shortly thereafter we scanned copies of the major journals in the field of astronomy. The publishers gave us permission to scan and host the older literature on our site and in return we would link out to the publishers’ websites for newer literature.

We were building the database in a time when electronic communication was limited so we needed to find sources to help us to identify and collect non-journal literature published in the field. One way in which we did this was to make contact with astronomy librarians around the world and have them submit their acquisition lists and tables of content from new books. We would then have the metadata typed in and added to the ADS. Now we rely on publishers and organizations such as CrossRef for this information.

One of the unique components of the ADS is the historical literature collection. Much of the early literature of astronomy was self-published by observatories and distributed by informal exchanges with other observatories. There is no full collection of this literature in any astronomy library. In 1997 the Wolbach Library at the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics and the Gilliss Library of United States Naval Observatory and the ADS embarked on a project to digitize this seminal literature of astronomy.

The first funding for this project came from a National Endowment for the Humanities grant as much information of interest to historians of astronomy is also documented in this collection. Astronomy librarians helped to prioritize the literature to be digitized and also to find full runs for scanning. A number of libraries from around the world participated in this effort.

After the literature was scanned on microfilm for preservation, the ADS paid for the scans to be digitized so that this literature could be added to the database. Many of these publications had no tables of content, no page numbers, no authors or publication dates. This metadata is necessary for utilizing the search capabilities of the ADS, so the ADS launched a citizen-science project and solicited volunteers to help create the metadata. We were somewhat successful with this and not surprisingly some of the volunteers were librarians!

In the early 2000s the ADS applied for funds from the Smithsonian Institution Seidell Foundation and was able to hire several Simmons Library Science students to continue the metadata generation.

And while the metadata was being generated we had to get copyright clearance for putting this collection online. With literature that was over a hundred years old and some being attributed to institutions that no longer exist this was not an easy task.

Now almost 20 years into this historical literature project we employed several Simmons students to help with assigning DOIs to this literature. We’ve had to do some research and have developed guidelines for whether or not an article is worthy of a DOI—does this item stand on its own? Would someone reference it? The funding for the DOI registration has so far come from the Smithsonian Institution.

In addition to the contributions to special projects the ADS continues to rely upon librarians for content enhancement—no longer by sending us tables of content but by helping to curate our collections. Our search engine allows for bibliographic groups which are maintained by librarians from various telescopes, archives and research institutions. This curation brings added value to our unique database.
Minutes Compiled 2010 – 2017 + Misc

December 6, 2017 Categories: Meeting Minutes Tags: Meeting Minutes

All Documents are in PDF format.

Meeting Minutes:

Executive Board Meeting Minutes 2017
- June 2017 (92 KB)
- May 2017 (104 KB)
- April 2017 (101 KB)
- February 2017 (96 KB)
- January 2017 (96 KB)

Executive Board Meeting Minutes 2016
- October 2016 (117 KB)
- September 2016 (121 KB)
- August 2016 (98 KB)
- July 2016 (63 KB)
- May 2016 (62 KB)
- April 2016 (78 KB)
- February 2016 (75 KB)
- January 2016 (64 KB)

Executive Board Meeting Minutes 2015
- 2015 Annual Board Meeting (90 KB)
- February 2015 (99K)
- March 2015 (70K)

Executive Board Meeting Minutes 2014

Executive Board Meeting Minutes 2013
- February 2013 (124K)
- March 2013 (90K)
- April 2013 (101K)
- September 2013 (95K)
- November 2013 (in process)
- December 2013 Annual Business Meeting (Presentation) (438K)
- December 2013 Annual Business Meeting (Minutes) (92K)

Executive Board Meeting Minutes 2012
- January 2012 (152KB)
- February 2012 (78KB)
- March 2012 (118KB)
- June 2012 (114K)
- August 2012 – Updated (68K)
- Sept. 2012 (83K)
- October 2012 (39K)
- December 2012 Annual Business Meeting (31K)

Executive Board Meeting Minutes 2011
- January 2011 (144K)
- February 2011 (410K)
- March 2011 (90K)
- April 2011 (233K)
- May 2011 (244K)
- June 2011 (262K)
- July 2011 (159K)
- Augus. 2011 (390K)
- Sept. 2011 (148K)
- October 2011 (302K)
- November 2011 (89K)
- December 2011 Business Meeting (74K)

Previous Minutes
- Executive Board Meeting Minutes 2010 (67K)
- Executive Board Meeting Minutes – June 17, 2004
- Executive Board Meeting Minutes – December 9, 1994 (1402K)
- Executive Board Meeting Minutes Aug 1942 – Jan 7, 1985 (4.3MB)
- Executive Board Meeting Minutes – August 31, 1971 (1429K)
Executive Board Meeting Minutes – December 14, 1964 (525K)

News Bulletin

- SLA News Bulletin Vol.8 No. 5 – February 1942 (1138K)
- SLA News Bulletin No. 3 – November 1934 (1345K)

Newsletter

- SLA Shock Absorber Newsletter, Vol 1. No. 1, Nov. 24, 1924 – Vol 1. No. 6, May 1925 (3.2MB)

Other Meetings and Reports

- President’s Report – May 20, 1975 (1406K)
- Joint Meeting of the Executive Board and Committee Chairmen – January 9, 1956 (348K)
- President’s Report 1951-1952 (843K)
- Constitution and By-Laws – May 1947 (870K)
July 2017 Board Meeting Minutes

Meeting Type: Board Meeting

Chapter Name: SLA-NE

Date, Time, and Place: Tuesday, July 11, 2017, 12:00 – 1:00pm, virtual/phone conference meeting

Name of the convening officer and secretary (or the substitutes), and if an executive board meeting, the names of those present:

Meeting officially started at 12:02pm.

1. Bob Kowalski
2. Chrissy Geluck
3. Ola Canty
4. Karen Frenchu
5. Khalilah Gambrell
6. Joy McNally
7. Jill Aberdale (Student Relations Chair)
8. Katie Glascoe

Agenda

Roll Call

Meeting Minutes: The June meeting minutes were approved, with two amendments. Two names (Nancy and Karen) were added for folks who were at the meeting, but whose names weren’t on the role call list. Khalilah moved to approve the June meeting minutes, and Karen seconded those.

Programming updates (Ola/Barbara)

Barbara – We’re not going to be using Draper for the Lightning Talks, because they got rid of their library. Ola is working on finding a new venue. We have two speakers so far. One speaker is pending. The Lightning Talks event is going to be on September 13th, which is a Wednesday.

The fall conference – We’re in the process of securing a venue for that event. We need to pay a deposit for the venue that we have selected.

Joy – You’ll work with Bob to send out a check for the deposit. Before you do that, though, you need to write up a budget for the fall conference, There should be a template in the Google Drive from last year’s event. You can use that as a basis to work from you.

Barbara – We reserved a large room called the Fenway Room which can sit 100 people, and a smaller room, which can sit 30 people. Lunch will have to start at 12:45pm, and we have one confirmed speaker – Dean Abels from Simmons. Our confirmed date is October 13th, which is a Friday. It’s going to be an all day event, at the Waltham Conference Center. There is a shuttle bus that runs between Alewife Station and the Convention Center. I am going to do a dry run so that I can time how long it’s going to take to get there.

Khalilah – Is it worth sending out a Tweet, or a message on SLA Connect to try to recruit more speakers for the Lightning Talks event? Do the Lightning Talks speakers have to be SLA-NE members, or can they be folks from outside the chapter?

Chrissy – Could the Lightning Talks event be a virtual event? Is there a Theme for the Lightning Talks?

Khalilah – Expressed concern that we only have two confirmed speakers for the Lightning Talks event, when the event is two months away, and we want to have 7-8 speakers for this. Bear in mind that we also have to promote this event too.

Barbara – Maybe we could ask a library science student to talk at this event. Maybe we could tactfully ask Betty if she wanted to speak at the Lightning Talks event. I think that I could take responsibility for recruiting one more person, otherwise all of the speakers will all have the same flavor and tone.

Khalilah – We need to come up with a budget for the Lightning Talks event, especially if it’s going to be an evening event, with food and drinks available.

Treasurer updates (Bob)

Bob – Ola and Joy were the most recent reimbursements. The student stipend recipient finally got their stipend. The original check got lost in the mail. There is $250 outstanding from the SLA-Rhode Island chapter.

Joy – She heard from Sage, who is interested in doing more work with the SLA-NE chapter in the future.
Membership (Paula)

Paula was not able to make it to today’s meeting, so there isn’t a Membership update.

Communications (Chrissy/Karen)

As you can imagine, a lot of the June social media and blog entries were about the Annual Conferences. Engagement between the platforms (Twitter and Facebook) was up. We have one blog entry up already from Khalilah, and we have three more blog entries already in the pipeline to be posted over the next few weeks. Various facets of LinkedIn were discussed, whether it is worth it to revamp the chapters’ LinkedIn presences.

Annual Conference report back (Joy)

We elected to do the Kiosk this year. It was fun, but I don’t think that there was a huge payoff for it. I enjoyed the conference, and all of the amenities. I liked the idea of the Main Street, but I don’t think that it was executed effectively. I did hear from someone that they tried to come find the New England Kiosk, but they couldn’t, based on the Chapter’s Kiosk location. The tables that had people at them definitely attracted more people to them.

Karen – We posted some of the photos on Facebook, and they were very popular!

Barbara – I liked the booths/kiosks as meeting places. I think that they have potential.

Chrissy – Today is the deadline to give feedback to SLA HQ about the conference.

Joy – One thing that I found difficult was that communications went through Divisions, and not through Chapters.

New Business

Joy – Reminded people about Board Buddies. Reach out to yours today!

2018 Elections (Khalilah/Joy)

Joy – We have elections coming up. We need to start the process now.

Khalilah – We are beginning to form a nominating committee. The only officer we will elect this time around is President-Elect. Bob has agreed to stay on as Treasurer for another two year term. We both have talked to a few of the past Presidents. One change that we’ve already implemented is change the role of President from a three year term to a two year term. Instead of having the President-Elect also be the Programing Chair, have the President-Elect work more with Membership Engagement than with Programming. It’s definitely something that we’ve needed.

Chapter Elections have been pushed up to the first week of October. We’ll do what we can to achieve that.

Awards (Joy)

Our awards committee is in the process of being formed. Leigh has agreed to head this committee again. She will need a few people to help her with that.

Khalilah – Given that the fall conference could be a significant cost to folks, what additional support can the SLA-NE board give in order to promote this event?

Barbara – I am in the process of scoping out the responsibilities that I want committees to tackle. I hope to have this done by the end of the week. Would $80 be too much ask SLA members to pay for the fall conference?

Chrissy – Has the schedule for the fall conference been fleshed out already? Maybe that is something that we could put up onto the website. She is also involved in the CI division. Maybe they could be persuaded to join SLA-NE in our fall conference.

Joy – Khalilah mentioned reaching out to the other SLA-NE Divisions.

Barbara – She could look into getting the Aerospace Division to help sponsor the Fall Conference.

Adjourn

Khalilah made a motion to adjourn the July 2017 Board Meeting.
Chrissy and Bob made seconds to adjourn the meeting.
Meeting adjourned at 1:06pm.

*Amended on Sunday, August 13th, at 5:19pm:*
The motion to approve the 2017 Lightning Talks budget was passed in an e-mail vote.
August 2017 Board Meeting Minutes
December 6, 2017 Categories: Meeting Minutes, News & Notes

Meeting Type: Board Meeting

Chapter Name: SLA-NE

Date, Time, and Place: Friday, August 18th, 2017, 12:00 – 1:00pm, virtual/phone conference meeting

Name of the convening officer and secretary (or the substitutes), and if an executive board meeting, the names of those present:

Barbara Williams
Nancy Burt
Kelly Bunting
Paula Cohen
Mary Perez
Khalilah Gambrell
Susan McGovern
Joy McNally-Brandow
Ola Canty
Chrissy Geluck
Karen Frenchu

Meeting Officially started at: 12:04pm

AGENDA:

Roll call

Approve minutes

Paula made a motion to approve the July meeting minutes, and Nancy seconded the motion. The minutes were approved at 12:05pm.

Membership update

Paula: We need to decide on the mailing list. Our first newsletter will be going out at the end of this month. The template has been set up on the platform. The other membership committee folks have looked at it, and made sure that all of the links work. The platform is very straightforward. The only drawback for the program that we are using is that we can’t adjust the font. We are using Mad Mimi (https://madmini.com) as our newsletter platform. There are 31 new members from the beginning of the year.

Programming update

Barbara and Ola: Ola has been working on the Lightning Talks event, and getting that up and running. The budget for the Lightning Talks event has been approved. Seven people have already signed up for this event in the last week. The loose theme for this event is “Organizing Our Digital World”. It is being held at Vertex Pharmaceuticals in Boston’s Seaport District. We have sponsorship from EBSCO in the amount of $650. Dinner will be ordered from B. Good, and is included in the ticket price. We can have up to 100 attendees.
There is a lot of interest in the Lightning Talks event, especially from folks who live outside of Boston, and can’t get into the city for this event, so looking into recording this event for folks to listen to online is definitely something to look into.

Barbara went over her proposals for the fall conference, including a breakdown of the costs associated with the conference. She sent out some feelers out for vendors for the Fall conference, and she has some of the speakers already confirmed. She is going to need some volunteers for the various committees.

Our goal was to have the Eventbrite page for the Fall Conference available and online by early next week for SLA members.

Joy will send out an email to Donna, who will reach out to Barbara about the Eventbrite page.

It must be scripted in the Eventbrite page that registration must be done in advance. There will be no registrations done at the event itself, so if you want to attend this event, then you have to register online ahead of time.

Student relations update
Katie and Jill weren’t able to make today’s call, but they did send out their status updates.

Kelly was out student stipend winner this year. Her blog post appeared on the website. Khalilah is working with Katie and Jill about the Day on the Job event for this Fall. We can hopefully do a Dine Around this fall as well. Khalilah shared the Day on the Job survey.

Elections/Volunteers
Khalilah – Bob has decided to stay on as Treasurer for another term. The Committee’s goal will be to find a President-Elect. Khalilah is going to send out a call for candidates this weekend. September 10th is when they hope to present the candidates to the Chapter, and September 17th is when they hope to open voting. The president-elect role is now a two year term, and they won’t be solely responsible for programming. They will have a hand in Membership, however. Anna Rothman has stepped down as the Connect volunteer. Ola has decided to resign her position at the end of this year. She just graduated from Simmons, and started a new job, and she feels like she has overextended herself. She won’t be continuing on in 2018.

Communications update
Karen and Chrissy: Everything has pretty much held steady. We have twelve new Twitter followers from June. We at least one more event that needs to be posted. New more blog entries are in the works.

New items
Paula – We had 299 members in June.

Motion to adjourn – Khalilah – 1:00pm
Karen seconded the motion to adjourn.

Update @ 12:28pm on Tuesday, September 19, 2017: Khalilah made a motion (via email) to approve SLA New England Chapter Practices. Joy seconded the motion. Mary Parez, Nancy Burt, Bob Kowalski, Ola Canty, and Karen Frenchu all voted “Yes!”. The motion passed.
September 2017 Board Meeting Minutes

December 6, 2017 Categories: Meeting Minutes, News & Notes

Meeting Type: Board Meeting

Chapter Name: SLA-NE

Date, Time, and Place: Friday, September 22nd, 2017, 12:00 – 1:00pm, virtual/phone conference meeting

Name of the convening officer and secretary (or the substitutes), and if an executive board meeting, the names of those present:

- Khalilah Gambrell
- Nancy Burt
- Ola Canty
- Bob Kowalski
- Mary Perez
- Joy McNally Brandow
- Paula Cohen
- Jill
- Chrissy Galuk

Agenda:

Meeting officially started at 12:03pm.

Approve August Minutes

Paula moved to approve the August meeting minutes. Ola seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Treasurer’s update (Bob)

Bob put together a spreadsheet for the Lightning Talk event that happened on September 13th, 2017. We had a net gain of $258.46 from that event. He also presented the financials for the Fall Conference that is coming up in October. We have gotten at least one sponsorship for this event, from the SLA Aerospace Engineering Division.

Programming update (Ola/Barbara)

Ola – The SLA Lightning Talks event went very well. By next week, I’ll want to send up a follow-up email about what each speaker spoke about. We had a lively discussion.

Joy – I thought that the Lightning Talk event went very well. There was a lot of enthusiasm for the event. The event space was great. If we could use that venue again for a future event, that would be great.

Joy – We have about 38 people registered for the Fall Conference. Registration ends on October 4th. One of the conference speakers is Eileen Abels, the Dean of GSLIS over at Simmons. Reach out to your network to spread the word about this event – co-workers, friends, associates, etc.

Membership update (Paula)

The membership statistics as of the 20th:
We have 229 members total – 2 members up from August. I put together a mailing list that includes the active members, and the inactive members from 2016. We used a platform called Mad Mimi for the newsletter. We like it so far, and if anyone has any feedback, please let us know as soon as possible.

**Student Relations update (Jill/Katie)**

Jill – Katie and I put out a call for Day on the Job, both students and hosts. I’ve had about 25 students contact me so far, and so far, only 6 hosts. We’ll probably have to put out another call for hosts. We’re hoping to match students and hosts in the next week or so (by the first week of October). I’ve been asking the students for their locations, and to make sure that students are serious about doing this. We’re also going to plan a Dine Around for late October or early November.

**Nominations update (Khalilah/Nancy/Joy)**

Khalilah – You should’ve received a message through SLA Connect about how we’re looking for a chapter president for 2018. We’re looking for someone to focus less on programming, and more on members, and member engagement, and newsletters and such. Going forward, the President will be a two year term (President-Elect, and President). Being the President has been a great experience for me. I’ve learned a lot, and gotten a lot out of it.

Joy – I was just going to affirm the chapter and volunteering. Being the chapter President has been helpful in terms of helping me learn my limitations. One of the things we’re talking about is trying to flatten the membership a little more.

**New business**

No new business!

Khalilah made the motion to adjourn. Bob second the motion. The meeting officially ended at 12:55 pm.
Chapter Awards and Annual Business Meeting Recap

December 11, 2017 Categories: Awards & Recognition, News & Notes, Program Summaries, Programs

The Chapter had a great meeting on Tuesday night! Thank you to Victoria Richard and Greenberg Traurig for hosting us! Alex Lumb from CDM Smith gave a great presentation on the tools and lessons learned as the InfoCenter moves toward a virtual library.

Each of the committees provided updates on their accomplishments for the year. We hosted 13 events and had a total of 236 people register this year!

Leigh Montgomery, the awards chair and past-president, presented out two chapter awards:

- Chapter Achievement Award — Barbara Williams (MIT Libraries)
  
  Presented to an individual who has done an outstanding job in their committee assignment(s) over the past year

- Distinguished Service Award — Ellen Cartledge Janpol (The Westport Library)
  
  Awarded to a member who has consistently over the years given their time and efforts to ensure the continuing success of the chapter

It was also announced that the 2017 president-elect, Ola Canty, has resigned, and the board voted that Nancy Burt, outgoing Director of Strategic Planning, would serve out the 2017 president-elect term and then Co-President for 2018; I will stay on for a second year as co-president with Nancy. Ola did a great job organizing the lightning talks in September, and we are very grateful for her service this year.

Khalilah Gambrell announced our board for 2018:

Co-Presidents: Nancy Burt and Joy McNally
President-elect: Caren Torrey
Secretary: Mary Perez
Treasurer: Bob Kowalski
Co-Communications directors: Karen Frenchu and Chrissy Geluk

We have several volunteer openings for the coming year. Look for more specific details after the New Year. If you are interested in taking on a project or volunteering for the year, please reach out to Joy McNally [jmcnallybrandow AT gmail.com] or Nancy Burt [nancy.b.burt AT gmail.com].

We wish everyone a great holiday season and we look forward to seeing you at an event in 2018!
**Becoming a corporate virtual library**

January 10, 2018 Categories: Featured, Program Summaries

At our Annual Business Meeting in December, Alex Lumb (Information Specialist at CDM Smith) spoke about the challenges, opportunities, and lessons learned from CDM Smith’s move from Cambridge to Boston, and subsequent transformation of the InfoCenter into an online information resource.

He has shared with us his powerpoint presentation (available here) and a summary of his talk, which you can read below.

In 2015 engineering consulting firm CDM Smith moved its corporate headquarters from Cambridge to Boston. As part of the move, the InfoCenter needed to reduce its physical footprint, driving the InfoCenter’s transformation to a mostly virtual resource. Prior to the move, we maintained several company-wide online engineering-related subscriptions (e-books, journals, research databases, and current awareness services), so we had something to work with. How could we navigate this transformation with minimal disruption to our users?

Enter Yammer, the enterprise social networking platform. Rolled out company-wide in late 2014, Yammer was introduced to encourage employees to share technical knowledge, collaborate on projects or proposals, quickly find answers, or share success stories. It didn’t take long to see that our InfoCenter had a lot to contribute to this new information-sharing platform. We started by setting up our own InfoCenter page as a way of promoting existing services and online resources. After that, we began monitoring the 30-odd technical groups which are organized around the firm’s main markets (water, environment, transportation, energy & facilities). This gave us the chance to become ‘embedded’ in these groups whose members – mostly engineers – are the large majority of the InfoCenter’s users. We can post to these groups (promoting books, articles, or reports to specific groups of users), read and contribute to threads (suggesting resources or doing proactive searches), and learn more about the information needs of our users. Can we make resources more accessible? Which emerging industry trends do we need to stay on top of? Do we need to make a video tutorial on how to find articles?

Shortly after Yammer was rolled out, we subscribed to LibGuides, a web-based content-management system for libraries. We set up separate, curated research guides for each technical discipline which feature subject-specific databases, e-books, and journals mostly pulled from our company-wide online subscriptions. The guides are easy to create and make visually appealing, and they can be shared on Yammer. From the user’s perspective, they are seeing targeted content that is relevant to their technical discipline only. For example, water treatment engineers see resources relevant to water treatment only (not transportation, or energy, etc.). Before LibGuides, we’d promoted the platforms or information services themselves rather than the content within. This approach encourages searching and exploration using an online service, whereas the curated/LibGuides approach can be more helpful for those with less time or inclination for searching.

Although we’ve had to subscribe to some additional online services to compensate for the loss of physical holdings from the old library, we can now leverage these services to greater effect. We’ve seen higher usage, and the online subscriptions are easy to promote & share on Yammer. Many of the younger engineers who join the firm have used services like Knovel (engineering e-book platform) in their degree programs, so they’re already familiar with the interface and features. For the publications that we can’t get online access to, interlibrary loan and borrowing from local university libraries have helped to bridge the gaps in our collection.

Copyright awareness is essential when sharing published content that isn’t included in online subscriptions. Our Copyright Clearance Center license has proved invaluable by providing easy ways for users to check license coverage for publications (can I post this great article that I found in a scientific journal to Yammer?). When questions come up about what can and can’t be shared, we’ve positioned ourselves as experts who can answer copyright questions or even contact rightsholders for permission where it’s needed.

Of course, Yammer or similar services are not suited to every industry or setting. For CDM Smith however, the technical, knowledge-intensive nature of an engineering consulting firm is well suited to using enterprise social media as a catalyst for collaborative problem-solving. One of the challenges of becoming a mostly online information center is managing expectations. With so many engineering e-books and manuals now available online (not to mention open access journals), there is an assumption that everything is available online — and an information specialist/librarian can surely find it if the user can’t. ‘Where is the online version of the book I need?’ is a common question.

The combination of Yammer and LibGuides has been pivotal in helping us transform to an online information center. It’s possible to promote our services and market ourselves, but also to observe and learn from our users, in ways that we couldn’t do before.
2016 Annual Business Meeting Minutes

January 19, 2018 Categories: Meeting Minutes, News & Notes

SLA New England Annual Business Meeting

Date: 15 Nov 2016
Location: Draper Lab, Cambridge, MA
Start Time: 6:15

Anna Rothman took the notes for the 2016 Annual Business Meeting, as Mary was unable to attend.

Khalilah:

Welcome message.

Thanks to Betty Edwards and Draper for providing facility. Kristen from IEEE for sponsoring event.

2016 Highlights: 15 in person events in Boston, Waltham, South Shore, North Shore, Central Mass, Western Mass, Connecticut, Maine, and our Annual Conference. Workshops, conference, vineyard social, and dine-arounds. Weren’t able to get attendance in NH for YBP event. Thank you to team of event leaders—had programming in all months except for February.

Member engagement:

Professional Development stipend to Roseanna. About the Board posts to introduce board as people and fellow SLA members. Susan our archivists helped to bring the CT Valley archives into the SLA NE archives to have them all together! SLA Stand for Equality lead by Stefanie to oppose NC HB2 to distribute ribbons at Annual Conference and help to relocate the future Annual Conference. Brought back the Programming Committee to help members grow and develop, instead of it being a one-person show of the presidency (share the workload and reach more people). Successful fall conference is thanks to them. Very important committee to keep our chapter vibrant.

Student engagement:

putting on events with SLA @ Simmons like the LinkedIn workshop. Cosponsor Interview and Resume X to help develop these students. Reach out if you’re interested in volunteering. Also working on Day on the Job, a 36-year initiative. Led by Wendy Austin this spring/summer with 22 students participating. Finding value in what we do. Awarded stipend to Amy for attending the Annual Conference.

Volunteering:

Need a President-Elect for coming year! Helps develop you as a leader, safe place to learn, grow, and make mistakes/fail. Provides a great and valuable opportunity for members interested in leadership. How can we help people get the benefit? Membership and pool of volunteers smaller than it was 10-15 years ago. Everyone does more with their free time than they might have in the earlier digital age. Let’s think about the Board, how we operate, how we can be more efficient with our time and our volunteers. What structures or processes might not be as applicable as they were when we set them up years ago? Hard to find volunteers interested in President-Elect each year. Have to ask SLA HQ to do more for us—provide us the training and tools so that we can focus on things that are important. Need volunteers for the programming committee—both chair and members. Vendor relations very important to help support our programs. Help the incoming Student Relations chair Katie. Help out with technology—posting event announcement currently steps: create an EventBrite, post to website, post to SLA Connect as event/discussion and send email, then post to LinkedIn, FB, and Twitter all manually. Can we push out automatically? Help Paula communicate with members with relevant information.

Bob:

Treasurer’s Report.

SLA NE chapter is financially solvent. Balance of $7872.82 in checking, $13870.57 in Savings, $210 in Eventbrite currently for ticket sales (though that will move to checking when event closes out). Bob secured us non-profit status in Eventbrite to save us a bit in fees. Amount is a little bit less this year than last, reflects a slight loss in Annual Confernece this year that was not met, and event vendor sponsorship fell a little short from the 2016 budget forecast. Also a bit of bills paid late last year that hit this year’s report.

Paula:

Membership Report.

Many choices for information professionals for membership groups for development and networking—have to showcase SLA benefits, resources, and value. Engagement, loyalty, and outreach were major goals. Sent welcome letters to new members and invited them to have a personal phone conversation with Paula to get them jump started with connecting to the network. Have only been 35 new members this calendar year. Sent letter to lapsed members to encourage them to renew or reconnect, providing a reminder of benefits. Discovered almost 100 local members who had not chosen NE as their chapter affiliation, and communicated with them. To date we have 343 members, at the beginning of the year we had 345. It’s been about five years since a membership survey, so important to take pulse of what current interests and desires are from the active membership. Paula developed an email newsletter template for member engagement, including Connect, trends, professional development. Will come out from MailChimp direct email. Virtual leadership conference was successful, but changes since. Trying to connect the different membership leaders in different communities as well as the SLA HQ to help share best practices on engagement.

Leigh:
Presentation of Awards.

Emily, Marie, Toby also on the committee.

Chapter Achievement Award: 1. Rosanna Longenbaker. In appreciation for work in Programming Committee and engaging the CT chapter, helps to keep us together. Thanks for optimistic and enthusiastic manner! 2. Wendy Austin. Led Student Committee since 2012, led DOTJ, chair of student stipend for annual conference. We know this has opened doors and changed career paths thanks to her work.

Distinguished Service Award for SLA NE for service on one or more committees, holding events, or improving chapter life: Khalilah Gambrell. Tonight, we hold you up because you have held us up! Jim nominated: devoted time, energy to keep SLA NE vibrant. Demonstrating leadership through her guidance of volunteer members, keeping wide regional involved and so that no one feels left out.


Anna: SLA Connect. 358 participants in our open community (57 of whom are not chapter members). 49 new in last six weeks. Raffle winners: Robert Metrick, Lisa Lilliott, Jennifer Swanson. Lisa got her gift card in person and the other two winners have been emailed with redemption information.

Joy:

Incoming Remarks.

Over 25 members volunteer not including the Executive Committee. Focused this year on trying to reengage our members and offer opportunities throughout the region, keep up-to-date on activities, but also for us to feel small and local. 2017 focus on knowledge sharing, building skills with each other and supporting one another. Avoid the knowledge silos in our profession. Have a question? Someone else in the chapter could help answer it. Building competencies as realigned with the SLA guidance. Challenge: connect with three people outside your usual network, volunteer for a dine-around, or to write an article about something you learned.

Meeting adjourned.

Addendum (12/5/2017):

At the 2017 Annual Business Meeting, Joy said to amend the 2016 ABM minutes to reflect the fact that Ethel seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting. Nancy made the motion to approve the 2016 ABM minutes (with the amendment) at the 2017 ABM. Karen Frenchu seconded the motion, and the motion passed.
January 2018 Board Meeting Minutes

February 8, 2018 Categories: Meeting Minutes, News & Notes

Meeting Type: Board Meeting

Chapter Name: SLA-NE

Date, Time, and Place: Friday, January 19th, 2018; 12:00 – 1:00pm; virtual/phone conference email

Name of the convening officer and secretary (or the substitutes), and if an executive board meeting, the names of those present:

Joy McNally-Brandow
Barbara
Nancy Burt
Caren Torrey (President-Elect and Membership Chair)
Christine Geluk
Dana
Jillian Aberdale
Karen F.
Mary Perez
Susan McGovern

AGENDA:

Roll Call
Welcome to new members
Dana – She is joining us as our. She was involved in SLA New Jersey, and is looking forward to becoming more involved in SLA New England.
Caren Torrey – Our President-Elect, she is at BioGen. She manages the library at BioGen.

Approve November meeting minutes
Joy asked for a motion to approve the November meeting minutes.
Karen F. made a motion to approve the meeting minutes.
Someone (Chrissy, I think?) seconded the motion, and the Meeting Minutes were approved.

Review proposed 2018 budget for February approval
Joy went over our preliminary/rough draft budget for 2018.
Lowering the scholarship amount from $1,500 to $1,000 for this year, since the SLA Annual Conference is going to be in Baltimore.
There is going to be a Leadership Summit this year.
The Archives are at Simmons. Susan is in the process of processing these Archives with the help of student volunteers. We will need to allocate/spend some money for supplies and such for this endeavor.
There is a line item in the Budget for Dine Arous.
We received around $3,500 in allotments.

Review 2018 goals
Joy – Would like to look at the list of Goals for 2018 that we discussed during the November 2017 Board Meeting.

Communication:
Engagement metrics between platforms/integration.
Sabrina Holley has agreed to help us with the Newsletter.

Archives (Susan):
Google Drive cleanup
We might owe the Simmons College Archives some money for the storage of the SLA-NE Archives at Simmons. We need to discuss things with Jason, who is the Archivist at Simmons College.

Remaining Open Board Positions:
Dine Around Coordinator

- Joy can check with Donna to see if she is interested in this position.

Connect Coordinator

Updates for board page:
Send your updates to the Board page (such as if you have a new headshot or email address) to Dana by next Thursday.

New Business
Chrissy – What if we did something like a Pros vs. Students softball game?
Joy – That sounds like a good idea. They opened up a new Flatbread’s in Brighton, so maybe we could do something there one night.
Adjourn
Karen made the motion to adjourn the meeting.
Chrissy seconded the motion to adjourn.
The meeting adjourned at 1:01 pm.
February message from the Co-Presidents

February 11, 2018 Categories: News & Notes

Greetings, chapter members! As we move into February, the 2018 SLA New England Chapter Board is developing an exciting series of professional development and communications activities for the year ahead. Nancy Burt and I are looking forward to serving as co-presidents of the chapter for 2018 where we will focus on member engagement and professional development, while building a strong chapter for the future!

We will be posting information on attending our monthly meetings on Connect and welcome your participation and input as we develop events and build opportunities to engage with each other across the chapter.

We are continuing our successful student relations activities with SLA@Simmons with a spring “Day on the Job”, dine-arounds, and the Student Scholarship. These are great volunteering opportunities, and we hope you can join in these outreach efforts to connect with future colleagues.

To connect with members across the region, we are also working on a series of webinars that will touch on practical skills and discuss what’s on the horizon. We will also be offering a Professional Development award this year to attend the annual conference in Baltimore! Look for an announcement this month with details.

We hope you are able to join us throughout the year by staying connected through SLA Connect, reading the blog and posting your own information stories to the website, hosting or joining a local dine-around, and attending professional development opportunities.

Nancy Burt & Joy McNally Brandow
Co-Presidents, SLA New England

Photo by Fré Sonneveld on Unsplash
SLA NE 2018 Conference Student Stipend

February 12, 2018 Categories: Stipends

SLA New England is pleased to announce a $1,250 stipend available to a current MLIS student in the New England area to attend the 2018 SLA Conference, held in Baltimore, MD.

The Special Libraries Association (SLA) is a nonprofit global organization for innovative information professionals and their strategic partners. SLA serves more than 7,000 members in 75 countries in the information profession, including corporate, academic, and government information specialists. SLA promotes and strengthens its members through learning, advocacy, and networking initiatives.

Why attend the SLA Annual Conference?

- Networking opportunities – share your experiences and learn from other information professionals.
- Over 200 events, including educational programs, networking events, receptions, and tours.
- The latest technologies from leading industry partners, all under one roof in the INFO-EXPO Hall.

SLA New England Student Stipend Award Criteria

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Be currently enrolled as a degree candidate at an ALA-accredited academic program in Library and Information Science.
- Be a member of SLA – award may go to covering student membership fee if not already a current member.
- Be a first time attendee of a SLA conference.

APPLICATION PROCESS:
Submit a document containing the following information/elements:

- Full name
- Academic affiliation: Institution and Program
- Start date of program; number of semesters and courses completed as of December 2017; and anticipated date of graduation
- Contact information, including mailing address, telephone, and email
- Other SLA division awards, if any, for which you are applying
- An essay of no more than 1 page (see details below), double-spaced
- Current resume

ESSAY DESCRIPTION:
Write a 1-page, double-spaced essay on why you should attend the annual conference and how the conference will benefit your career aspirations. Submissions will be judged based on originality and clarity as well as on inclusion of all required information. Spelling, grammar, and completion of all required information will count in judging.

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATION SUBMISSION:
Friday, March 30, 2018.

APPLICATION SUBMISSION:
Completed applications should be emailed as a single file attachment in Microsoft Word or PDF to Jill Aberdale & Katie Glasoe, SLA New England Student Relations Committee Co-Chairs, at the following email address: jillian.aberdale at gmail.com &/or glakat210 at gmail.com. Please contact Jill &/or Katie with questions about the application process.

POST AWARD:
Awardee will be required to write a short post about his/her conference experience for the SLA New England Website. Awardee is encouraged to serve a one-year term as a member of the Student Relations Committee of the SLA New England Chapter (may be accomplished virtually, if the recipient is no longer a New England resident following graduation).

NOTIFICATION AND AWARD DISTRIBUTION:
Applicants will receive notification of award status by the middle of April. The recipient of the award will receive a one-time stipend of $1,250 which may be applied to SLA membership costs, SLA student conference registration fee, transportation, and lodging costs. The recipient is responsible for making their own conference and registration arrangements. Any costs above and beyond the stipend amount will be the personal responsibility of the recipient.

Photo credit: SLA Headquarters
Professional Development Annual Conference Stipend

March 6, 2018 Categories: News & Notes, Stipends

Professional Development Annual Conference Stipend

SLA New England is offering an Annual Conference stipend in the amount of $1,000 to:

- An active SLA New England member
- Who completed a MLIS/MIS program before May 31, 2018
- AND is currently unemployed or working less than 20 hours a week
- AND has not previously received this stipend

Please include the following in your application:

- Contact Information (required)
  - Full Name:
  - Email:
- Length of time as an SLA New England Chapter member:
- Month/Year Completed MLIS/MIS program:
- Company (if applicable)
  - Employer Name/Position:
- Essay (required)
  - Write a 300-500 word essay on one of the following questions:
    - Why is attending the SLA Annual Conference important to you?
    - Describe an SLA benefit you value and how it could be enhanced or improved.

Post Award Requirements: Recipient will write a post summarizing his/her activities at the conference for the SLA New England website and serve on the scholarship committee the year after receiving the award.

Deadline for Application Submission: Friday, March 30, 2018. Applications must be sent as an attachment in Word or Acrobat PDF format by email to the scholarship committee at stipend@newengland.sla1.org. Questions about applying may be sent to Dana Eckstein Berkowitz, webmaster, or Katie Glasoe, SLA NE Student Relations Co-Chair at stipend@newengland.sla1.org.

Notification and Award Distribution: All Applicants will receive notification of award status by mid-April and the scholarship recipient will receive a check for the award amount ($1,000) from the SLA New England treasurer. The award may be applied to the SLA conference registration fee, transportation, and lodging costs. Meals and incidental expenses are not covered.
February 2018 Board Meeting Minutes

March 9, 2018 Categories: Meeting Minutes

Meeting Type: Board Meeting

Chapter Name: SLA-NE

Date, Time, and Place: Friday, February 16th, 2018; 12:00 – 1:00pm; virtual/phone conference email

Name of the convening officer and secretary (or the substitutes), and if an executive board meeting, the names of those present:
Caren Torrey
Dana Eckstein Berkowitz
Jillian Aberdale
Mary Perez
Susan McGovern
Bob Kowalski (Treasurer)
Joy McNally-Brandow
Katie Glascoe
Christine Geluk

AGENDA

The February 2018 Board Meeting started at 12:03pm.

Roll Call

Budget review (Bob) – 20 mins

Bob reviewed the proposed 2018 budget. Some of the amounts – such as the student scholarship amounts – are slightly less for this year because the 2018 Annual Conference is going to be in Baltimore, Maryland, which is closer to New England than Phoenix, Arizona (the location of the 2017 Annual Conference).

The programming costs for 2018 seem to be the same as in previous years.

Chapter Archives – Susan hasn’t heard anything from Jason (the Archivist at Simmons) about Administrative Costs regarding the storage of our Chapter Archives at Simmons College. Susan said that Jason would look into that and get back to her about that.

The 2018 Budget and the January Board meeting minutes will both be sent out for approval via email.

Annual Conference planning (Joy) – 25 mins

– East Coast Reception

Caren offered to help organize this reception.

– Main St. Kiosk

Joy said that we have to let HQ know by mid-March if we are going to do a Main Street Kiosk again at the 2018 SLA Annual Conference.

There was a foot traffic issue regarding our both at the 2017 Annual Conference.

Follow up and check membership impact (Caren)

Are they changing the location? More details (Joy)

– Prof Development stipend

– Dana, Joy, and Katie volunteered to be on the Professional Development Stipend committee.

– Student Stipend

Katie and Jill – No applications yet for the Student Stipend.

Caren – cross-post to Student Connect

Joy – SJSU/URI (RI)/Drexel (Philly)/Upstate NY (Syracuse) WISE consortia cross-post

Committee updates

Membership (Caren)

Meeting with Paula to talk about the Membership Chair position. Meeting with Ethel to get her advice, and for knowledge sharing. She attended the Leadership Summit, and she is writing a blog post about that. She learned a lot from this Symposium about how the different chapters are run.

Communication (Chrissy)
Alex quote from the Annual Business Meeting was the top tweet over on Twitter.

Instagram/social media/communications survey

Spam/Connect alternative, create new email address for website inquiries

Archives (Susan)

Need new volunteer(s) to help with processing

New Business

If anyone wants to host a Dine Around, please let Joy know. It would be great to schedule some Dine Arouns for March, April, or May.

Chrissy had a paper about managing Microsoft flow accept. She will be speaking on an LMD panel.

Adjourn

Katie made a motion to adjourn. Chrissy seconded the motion, and the meeting ended at 1pm.
Call for ResumeX Volunteers

March 13, 2018 Categories: News & Notes

SLA@Simmons is currently planning the Spring 2018 ResumeX!

ResumeX is a speed dating style career development workshop in which LIS professionals review current graduate students’ resumes and cover letters, offering constructive feedback for improvement.

This is your chance to support new and upcoming LIS professionals in their transition from students to professionals. Whether or not your current position and a student’s professional interest align, your experience is a valuable resource to SLIS students who are, or will soon be, on the job hunt.

ResumeX will be held on **Monday, April 9th, 2018** at Simmons College. There will be two one-hour rounds of feedback: 5:00-6:00pm and 6:00-7:00pm. Food will be provided.

If you are interested in volunteering, please email sla at simmons.edu. In your email, please indicate whether you would like to volunteer for one or both time slots.

Please contact sla at simmons.edu with any questions.
SLIS After Dark 2018 – cancelled

April 12, 2018 Categories: News & Notes

Please note this event has been cancelled.

Join us for an evening of networking with SLIS alumni. From 5:30-6pm there will be an alumni association business meeting. Jane Sánchez, current (25th) Law Librarian of Congress will be honored and Roberta Shaffer, 24th Law Librarian of Congress, will give brief remarks at the meeting. A networking reception will follow. Everyone is welcome to attend one or both events.

RSVP required by signing up at:
https://tinyurl.com/SLISAD

$10 Students, $20 Alumni, $25 Non-SLIS
Food and drink will be provided
*Business casual attire*
March 2018 Board Meeting Minutes

June 4, 2018 Categories: Meeting Minutes, News & Notes

Meeting Type: Board Meeting
Chapter Name: SLA-NE

Date, Time, and Place: Friday, March 9th, 2018; 12:00 – 1:00pm; virtual/phone conference email

Name of the convening officer and secretary (or the substitutes), and if an executive board meeting, the names of those present:
Joy McNally-Brandow
Barbara
Bob Kowalski (Treasurer)
Nancy Burt
Chrissy Geluk
Dana Eckstein Berkowitz
Jillian Aberdale
Karen F.
Katie Glascoe
Caren Torrey – called in late, at around 12:19pm.
Mary Perez

AGENDA:

Roll Call – Meeting started at 12:03pm.

Approve February minutes

Joy asked if there was a motion to approve the minutes. Katie made the motion to approve the February meeting minutes, and Bob made a second, and the February meeting minutes were approved.

2018 Budget:

Joy sent out an e-mail about the proposed 2018 Budget. Joy asked if there was a motion to approve the 2019 Budget. Bob made the motion to approve the Budget, and Nancy seconded the motion. The Budget was put to a vote, and the majority of the Board voted to approve the 2018 Budget.

Annual Conference planning

☐ East Coast Reception (Caren) – Table Until April
☐ Main St. Kiosk (Joy) – Joy reserved a Kiosk for the New England Chapter of SLA for the 2018 Annual Conference. Different ideas were tossed around about how to engage conference attendees. What we do might depend on the location of the SLA Kiosk on Main Street.
☐ Student Stipend (Jill/Katie) – We have one applicant for the Student Stipend. We met with the new President of SLA@Simmons, who is promoting the Student Stipend to the LIS students at Simmons.
☐ Prof Dev stipend (Joy) – The Professional Development Stipend has been posted. It will be open until the end of the month. No applications have been received yet.

Committee updates

☐ Prof development/programming (Barbara) – We intend to launch a short survey by the end of the month. What do people want to learn? There is still a lot of information from last year’s survey that we can use. We are going to be soliciting volunteers to host Dine Arounds. We also want to try out Lunch Arounds and Breakfast Arounds, just to try out different formats and different times of days. Nancy said that she could host a Dine Around in the Wakefield, MA area on or around April 3rd. Joy is willing to host a Dine Around on May 3rd. A storytelling event, and lunch and learn webinars are being proposed.
☐ Membership (Caren) – We met last week. The Newsletter will be up and running shortly.
☐ Communications (Chrissy/Karen) – The social media survey is in it’s final format. It will be distributed soon, after two more edits are made. How do the chapters use social media?
☐ Student Relations (Jill/Katie) – Trying to get a Dine Around scheduled for April 25th or 26th, at Puddingstone. The Resume X is being planned for the evening of April 9th.

New Business:

☐ Simmons SLIS Career Fair (4/18), 3-6pm – This event is being held on a Wednesday this year. We should do a student membership raffle again this year. We did this at the Career Fair last year, and it was a success.
Possible Swag Ideas: Pens? Fridge Magnets?
Caren will look into ideas, and email the cost.

Adjourn!

Joy asked for a motion to adjourn. Nancy (?) made the motion to adjourn. Chrissy seconded the motion to adjourn. The meeting ended at 12:41pm.
April 2018 Board Meeting Minutes

June 4, 2018 Categories: Meeting Minutes, News & Notes

Meeting Type: Board Meeting

Chapter Name: SLA-NE

Date, Time, and Place: Friday, April 6th, 2018; 12:00 – 1:00pm; virtual/phone conference email

Name of the convening officer and secretary (or the substitutes), and if an executive board meeting, the names of those present:

Agenda:

Meeting officially started at 12:03pm

Roll Call

Nancy
Jillian Aberdale
Karen Frenchu
Dana
Susan McGovern
Caren Torrey
Bob Kowalski
Christine Geluk
Mary Perez

Approve March minutes

Karen made a motion to approve. The other Caren seconded the motion. We voted, and the motion was approved.

Annual Conference planning

- Attendance Survey: In years past, Survey Monkey has been used for this. If we do want to move forward with sending out an attendance survey, we can do this. Maybe for this year, we can send out a simple email to folks, asking if they want to know who else from the chapter will be going to the SLA Annual Conference, and if they do, to please submit their email address. We can get a more comprehensive information list from HQ. Maybe we can reach out to the SLA-Rhode Island Chapter leadership to share information, since they are part of the New England region (but their own chapter).
- Student Stipend (Jill/Katie)
  - We received 2 applications for the stipend. We have 4 judges reviewing the applications using last year’s metrics. Recipient will be announced by end of next week (Friday, April 13th).
- Prof Dev stipend (Dana)

We have one application for the Professional Development stipend. We should have an update shortly.

- East Coast Reception (Caren)

There isn’t a lot of movement on this. No one has picked up the baton to lead, although we do have a lot of folks who are interested in helping out with organizing the reception.

Committee updates
• Prof development/programming (Barbara)

Barbara was unable to attend today’s meeting.

• Communications (Chrissy/Karen)

Karen – We have had some meetings, which were all successful.

Chrissy – There was a lot of activity when I first put out the survey. I will send out another call for responses shortly. I am going to put together the interim results as a way to encourage people to continue to respond to the survey. I will be sharing the results with both the Board members, and with the general membership. So far, no divisions have responded to the survey yet, but a few caucuses have, as have three people from the Philadelphia Chapter.

  o Password Manager (Dana)

We have discussed centralizing the keeping of our passwords. It looks like RoboForm is the winner. Once the account is created, people who have passwords can send them to the SLA-New England account for electronic storage/safekeeping.

• Membership (Caren)

  o 230 members total
  o Swag – Caren said she looked at a website called Quality Logo Products. She looked at the cost of pens, lip balm, and lunch-sized totes, as well as bookmarks, and sticky notes. She looked at some tech items, but she didn’t find anything that was cost effective. Caren showed us some of the options on the Quality Logo Products website.

• Student Relations (Jill/Katie)

  o Simmons SLIS Career Fair (4/18), 3-6
  o SLA@S/SLA NE dine-around planned for Thursday, April, 26th 6-8pm at The Puddingstone Tavern (please join us!)
  o A Dine Around is being planned for the North Shore, in Wakefield. Tuesday, April 24th was mentioned as a possible date for this Dine Around.

New Business:

No new business!

Adjourn!

A motion to adjourn was made, and seconded, and the meeting was officially ended at 12:48pm.
Caren Torrey Named SLA Rising Star

June 19, 2018 Categories: News & Notes

Congratulations to Caren Torrey, SLA New England’s President Elect, who was named a Rising Star at the SLA 2018 Annual Conference. The award is given for demonstrating leadership and the ability to creatively solve problems in the early stages of their career.

Caren Torrey got involved in SLA while an MLIS student, heading the SLA student group at Simmons College and managing a joint SLA-Simmons forum on effective leadership and communication at the 2015 Annual Conference in Boston. She has remained active in SLA since graduating, serving on the New England Chapter’s Professional Development Committee and as 2018 president-elect and also as webmaster for the Pharmaceutical & Health Technologies (PHT) Division. She presented a paper at the 2017 PHT meeting on her efforts to develop a central library at Alkermes Inc., where she was working as research and development librarian. She is now the library operations manager at Biogen, which manufactures therapies for people living with serious neurological, autoimmune, and rare diseases.

For more, see:
https://www.sla.org/five-receive-rising-star-awards-sla-2018/
New Haven Dine Around August 20

August 16, 2018 Categories: News & Notes

Host: Dana Eckstein Berkowitz

Date: Monday August 20, 2018

Time: 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM

1227 Chapel St, New Haven, CT 06511


Cost: The cost of the event is free but registration is required. Attendees will pay for their own dinner and drinks.

RSVP by Friday August 17.

https://www.eventbrite.com/e/new-haven-ct-dine-around-tickets-47926962836
SLA Annual Conference Wrap Up

August 30, 2018 Categories: Featured, News & Notes

SLA New England sponsored a $1,250 stipend to a current MLIS student in the New England area to attend the 2018 SLA Conference, held in Baltimore, MD. Here is her experience!

I had the privilege of attending the 2018 SLA national conference in June in Baltimore, MD as this year’s recipient of the New England Student Travel Award. The theme for this year’s conference was B’more and the experience provided me with more new friends, professional contacts, and ideas for how I could achieve much more than I could have ever imagined in my desired career field.

From the mixers to the presentations, SLA does not waste a moment before presenting attendees with opportunities to meet and learn about what peers are doing in their institutions and new developments in the information science field. As a first time attendee and student having just finished my first year of a dual master’s degree program in history and archives management at Simmons College, I was nervous to jump into the conference scene.

There was no need for nerves! In his remarks during the first mixer for first time attendees, SLA President Roberto Sarmiento said that with “SLA you will never walk alone” and that “you will find your tribe”. This couldn’t have been more true. More seasoned “SLAers” were eager to coach me through the conference process, sharing experiences, professional tips and contacts and words of wisdom all week long.

Conference attendees wore name badges with corresponding colored ribbons that identified where they were in their SLA experience. As the week went on, people added stickers that identified membership in additional sections/schools and created more opportunities to build community through conversation starters. I was hesitant to be identified a “newbie” at first among so many distinguished pros but one very kind tenured conference attendee said the name tags were like “catnip” for other attendees who would actively seek out time to talk to me as a first timer. It worked like a charm! Soon enough I found the ribbons helped break the ice and led to interesting conversations where I may have been reluctant to join in without a push.

As part of the Military Division, I was thrilled to meet practitioners currently working in the field I one day hope to join. Prior to SLA, I had no idea there were so many pathways to my desired career and the conference provided wonderful career connections. Attending the divisional breakfasts gave me a chance to talk to the leaders in my field and get practical advice for how to achieve my goals.

I especially enjoyed the sessions for new professionals getting started in the profession. Hearing from other students and newer professionals provided an interesting balance in viewpoints offered by those who have been in their positions longer. It was comforting to share challenges, frustrations and ask questions of others who are similarly situated.

Each day’s agenda was jam packed with presentations that covered more topics than I could possibly imagined. It helped SLA offered an app for smartphones that attendees could download prior to the start of the conference that offered detailed descriptions of sessions which helped with time management. The app also allowed you to engage in chat forums, message other attendees, and even offered a city guide to Baltimore with local eateries and sights.

SLA exposed me to new concepts and technology in information science, challenged me to think outside of what I considered possible for my career aspirations and encouraged me to engage with others on a similar journey. Listening to the inspiring words of keynote speakers like Dr. Carla Hayden, Librarian of Congress, author Wes Moore, as well as the many other individuals who leant their time, talent and expertise to make this event educational was transformative.

The theme for this year’s conference was B’more and the experience provided me with more new friends, professional contacts, and ideas for how I could achieve much more than I could have ever imagined in my desired career field.

Some tips I learned from my SLA experience:

- **Apply for conference funding** – your local chapter or home institution may have funds available. You will build valuable knowledge about the field and make career connections that may help in a job search.
- **Attend as many mixers as possible** – Many events hand out door prizes for attendance. (I won a copy of The Librarian’s Skillbook: 51 Essential Career Skills for Information Professionals by Deborah Hunt and many others won free registration to next year’s SLA conference in Cleveland, OH).
- **Place a stack of business cards behind your name for quick and easy access and wear your name tag close to your face**
- **Try to go to a session that is outside of your comfort zone or usual interests** – something new may pique your interest or introduce a different concept
- **Take notes** – After meeting somebody new, take a moment to jot down a note on the back of their business card about your conversation and where you met them so you can follow up via email later on.
- **Attend alumni events** – it’s a great way to build a strong community of support when you return to your home institution
- **Rest when you need to** – bring snacks, a water bottle and don’t feel guilty if you need to head back to your room for quick break after all the meeting and greeting
- **Comfortable shoes and layers are key** – conference locations cooled and there can be long distances between sessions. It’s hard to think about the content if you’re cold and your feet hurt.
- **Talk to everybody** – vendors, presenters, executive board leadership, that another person who looks lost in the hallway, etc. Other attendees are generous with their time and want to share their career experiences with you. Join them during their breaks and “dine-arounds”. The sense of camaraderie at SLA was by far the best part of the conference experience and what I think makes this a special association.
- **Enjoy!** SLA is fun. Enjoy the company of your colleagues and “find your tribe”

Thank you to SLA New England for this amazing opportunity!
Hsiu-Ann Tom  
Masters Candidate, Library and Information & Information Science: Archives Management and History  
Simmons College
Fall Lightning Talks: Call for Speakers and Volunteers

September 4, 2018 Categories: Featured, News & Notes

At the end of October, we will present our annual **Lightning Talks** session from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. To reach as many members as possible we want to simultaneously broadcast these talks from three locations across the New England chapter. We have secured a facility in New Hampshire, and now seek a location in Connecticut and Massachusetts. The exact date of this event will depend on the availability of the facilities in CT and MA.

To simultaneously broadcast these events, we need a coordinator in CT and MA to either, take responsibility for or recruit someone to:

- Locate a facility with Wi-Fi, two microphones and screens to project upon
- Serve as the local moderator
- Oversee the setup and cleanup of the room
- Select and order the food
- Take pictures at the event

The categories for this year’s **Lightning Talks** are:

- Library Carpentry
- Folio
- General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)
- Libdot
- Mindfulness
- Open Education Resources (OER)
- Digital Bread Crumbs
- Professional Development Opportunities

Please be in touch if you would like to make a 7-minute presentation on any of the topics or have recommendations for dynamic speakers. Just like last year, no PowerPoints are allowed.

Barbara Williams (barbaraw at mit.edu) is our point of contact for the Lightning Talks, and can answer any questions you have about the event.
SLA NE Day on the Job

September 24, 2018 Categories: Featured, News & Notes

Sign-up to participate in SLA NE Day on the Job as a Host!

Day on the Job (DOTJ) is a popular program enabling students to meet with practicing LIS professionals and to learn more about working in a special library environment. The program has proven to be highly beneficial to past hosts and students as it is an opportunity to connect and learn from each other.

DOTJ does not consist of a particular day or format, rather date and time can be negotiated between the student and host. The format could be a day-long job shadow, an interview, a library tour, or in-depth conversation.

To sign up please email SLA NE Student Relations Co-Chairs Jill Aberdale (jillian.aberdale@gmail.com) and / or Katie Glasoe (glakat210@gmail.com) by Friday, October 12, 2018. Once you have been matched with your student, an email introduction will be sent by Tuesday, October 16, 2018.
May 2018 Board Meeting Minutes

October 7, 2018 Categories: Meeting Minutes, News & Notes

Meeting Type: Board Meeting
Chapter Name: SLA-NE

Date, Time, and Place: Friday, May 11th, 2018; 12:00 – 1:00pm; virtual/phone conference email

Name of the convening officer and secretary (or the substitutes), and if an executive board meeting, the names of those present:

Agenda:

Meeting officially started at: 12:06pm.

- Roll Call:
  
  Barbara
  
  Caren Torrey
  
  Christine Geluk
  
  Jillian Aberdale
  
  Bob Kowalski
  
  Joy
  
  Mary Perez
  
  Susan McGovern
  
  Dana
  
  Nancy

- Approve April minutes

The April meeting minutes were approved.

- Annual Conference planning
  
  Session promotions

Maybe attending one of our Chapter’s sessions could be part of session promotion. We could also put something into the Newsletter.

  - Student Stipend (Bob)

The check was sent out on or around April 20th. He said that he would follow up with that.

- East Coast Reception (Caren)

We selected the section option. SLA HQ will pay for the food and the room, so we don’t have to worry about that. HQ has asked that the Chapters that attend the East Coast reception each donate $200. A baseball game is scheduled to take place at the same time as the East Coast reception, so that might draw some people away from attending the reception. SLA HQ wants to do cool door prizes for the East Coast reception. There will also be Librarian bingo. Caren said that she would ask for more clarification about what the $200 would be spent on.

Joy said that Simmons won’t be doing a reception at SLA annual. She suggested doing some sort of memorial for Jim Matarazzo at the East Coast reception.

- Kiosk (Joy)

We did sign up for the Kiosk. Joy will create a list/sign up for the Kiosk for this year. We discussed ordering pens to have at the Kiosk to hand out to people. We also discussed doing Librarian Bingo to get folks more engaged (Ex.: Find someone who works at an Academic Library. Find someone who is from another chapter.) Barbara offered to help create a Librarian Bingo template for us to use.

- Mid-year check-in with goals (Joy/Nancy)

  - Committee updates
    
    - Prof development/programming (Barbara)

We have put together a series of Lunch and Learn Webinar sessions. Donna has agreed to maintain the Eventbrite page. We are going to open these webinars to non-SLA members for a small fee. Hopefully, this will encourage people to join the SLA-New England chapter. There are going to be a lot of events coming up during the second half of 2018.

  - Communications (Chrissy/Karen)
  
    - Website (Dana)
It does seem like we are getting more engagement from folks in terms of people looking at our Facebook page, and joining our LinkedIn group. There are

- **Membership (Caren)**
  - **Swag**

We did go to the Simmons job fair. We picked a student out of a raffle to get a free SLA-NE membership. We’ve gotten three new student members since the Simmons job fair. We have 230 active members. Chrissy said that there is going to be a Data Summit at the Hyatt Regency Boston May 22-23rd, 2018. There is also going to be a Bio IT conference next week at the Seaport World Trade Center in Boston.

- **Student Relations (Jill/Katie)**
  - **Simmons SLIS Career fair (4/18)**

The Simmons SLIS Career Fair happened, and it was well attended. Caren said that a student won a raffle to get a free SLA-NE membership.

- **Dine-around (5/9)**

The Dine Around went well. Most of the attendees were Simmons students.

**New Business:**

- **Nancy** – She’d like to invite everyone over to her house for a backyard BBQ. She’d also like to have a combined June/July board meeting (instead of individual meetings for June and July), since the currently scheduled June Board meeting is scheduled to take place the Friday before the SLA Annual conference. Look for an e-mail from her about that.

- **Joy** – She’d like to do something to memorialize Jim Matarazzo – rename one of the scholarships, etc. She’d like to have something to announce/advertise at the SLA conference.

**Adjourn**

Meeting was adjourned at 1:00pm.
July 2018 Board Meeting Minutes

October 7, 2018 Categories: Meeting Minutes, News & Notes
Meeting Type: Board Meeting
Chapter Name: SLA-NE
Date, Time, and Pace: Friday, July 20th, 2018; 12:00 – 1:00pm; virtual/phone conference

Agenda:

Roll Call:

Barbara Williams
Joy
Mary Perez
Katie Glascoe
Christine Geluk
Nancy Burt
Caren Torrey

Meeting officially started at 12:05pm.

Approve May minutes
Motion was made to approve the May minutes. Nancy seconded the motion to approve the May Meeting minutes, and they were passed.

Annual Conference Review

- Student Stipend article (?)

The 2018 Student Stipend Recipient was Sue Anne. She e-mailed afterward to say that she enjoyed the conference. She said that she met with a lot of military librarians. She is still writing up her recap, and we can expect to receive that by the end of July/the summer. Sue Anne said that she wants to volunteer with SLA-Simmons.

- East Coast Reception (Caren)

Maybe do a debrief with the organizing chapters. Sounds like a case of too many cooks in the kitchen. The food was a disappointment. It seemed like the Reception wasn’t well planned.

- Kiosk (Joy)

Had a “hands off” approach with the Kiosk. She liked the pens. Every time she went by, she saw someone new at the Kiosk, which made her happy. She wants to send out a survey to get volunteer feedback.

Follow-up with Bingo

Webmaster/Connect Admin meeting

Chrissy did not make it to the Webmaster/Connect Admin meeting.
Continued issues with attacks, need follow-up and regular meetings

- Notes from Leadership meetings (Joy)
  Issues with the website were at the forefront.
  Our chapter’s 110th anniversary is coming up in 2020.
  How do we want to strategize and grow connections?

Committee updates

- Communications (Chrissy/Karen)
  - Website (Dana)
    - Two factor authentication

Meeting last week to address possible migration.
Begin with IA of website ahead of migration and check/add information audit to chapter practices
Launched Teams site to discuss IA and migration
Loop in Susan for archiving pages
Any other volunteers?

- Prof development/programming (Barbara)

Barbara presented the planning committee report. She wants to do Lightning Talks again this year. She wants to recruit eight people to give three, five, or seven minute powerpoint lightning talks as a wrap up to a networking event.

- Membership (Caren)
  - Newsletter feedback (?)

No newsletter feedback. She has gotten a few “Thank You”s. Maybe devote the next issue to upcoming events?

- Student Relations (Jill/Katie)
  - Fall planning

No updates for fall planning yet. They’re sure that they’ll have something for our next meeting.

New business

- Elections

Elections are coming up in the fall. If you are interested in running for a Board position please email your information to the appropriate people. We need to have our elections in October. You can’t hold your Board position for two consecutive terms. If you know someone who you think would be a good fit for a board position, send their information along too.

- Khalilah’s August event proposal

Khalilah proposed hosting an event at Brandeis University (located in Waltham, MA). It sounds like someone who used to work at EBSCO wants to launch some sort of product that is designed to help libraries find employees, and job seekers find jobs. What data will they be collecting on us? Have they reached out to other organizations about this? What are the clear benefits for attendees? How will the data be used? Sounds like this person wants to do some sort of product testing.

The meeting was officially ended at 1:04pm.
August 2018 Board Meeting Minutes

October 7, 2018 Categories: Meeting Minutes, News & Notes

**Meeting Type:** Board Meeting

**Chapter Name:** SLA-NE

**Date, Time, and Place:** Friday, August 10th, 2018; 12-1pm; Virtual/Online/Conference Call

**Name of the convening officer and secretary (or the substitutes), and if an executive board meeting, the names of those present:**

**Agenda:**

- Meeting came to order at 12:03pm

  - Roll Call

  1. Joy McNally Brandow
  2. Nancy B.
  3. Bob Kowalski (Treasurer)
  4. Jillian Aberdale
  5. Karen F.
  6. Katie Glascoe
  7. Mary Pamela Perez (Secretary)
  8. Barbara
  9. Susan McGovern
  10. Caren Torrey
  11. Dana

  - Approve July minutes

Katie made the motion to approve, and Katie seconded the motion. The July meeting minutes were approved.

  - Elections and Board structure

According to our by-laws, we are required to have a minimum of four positions in order to be considered a fully functioning Chapter – President Elect, President, Secretary, and Treasurer. We can add other Board positions as wanted/needed. Currently, our President Elect and Communication Director positions are up for Election this year (2018).

  - Committee updates

  - Archives (Susan)

Went to the Google Drive to take a look. Looks like things are pretty well organized. We are going to put out a call for an Archives student to help out with the physical Archives in the Fall, once everyone is settled. Is Google Drive our Archive? Our Chapter’s 110th Anniversary is coming up in 2020. Do we want to have a celebration for that?

SmugMug – reviewing this, and seeing how we can get more photos.

  - Treasurer (Bob)

Will provide a Spend versus Budget for September

  - Communications (Chrissy/Karen)

HQ will help with a social media directory
Chrissy set up a teams’ site for communicating about website

Dana – Dana Migration and SLA-NE jobs board blockage issues have both been resolved

Website migration – SSO with Connect; Permissions carry over; Migration plan did not seem clear; SLA already purchased 25 sites; WYSIWG editor + HTML, CSS

Volunteer management module, job posting widget might be purchased

Schedule a Follow Up with the migration team

As of August 7, 2018, we have 497 members.

Quan Logan held a webinar on August 9th, 2018, on the Higher Logic demo. The demo was recorded.

- **Membership (Caren)**
  
  We sent out one newsletter already
  
  We are planning on putting our next newsletter in September with candidates and student articles
  
  Resending request for Volunteers
  
  Maybe add Board spotlight

- **Prof development/programming (Barbara)**
  
  We are going to make a decision by next Friday as to when we’re going to have our Annual Business Meeting. Our long term goal is to have it be like a Gala event. We want to have it either November 3rd or December 1st. We are either going to have a brunch or an early dinner.
  
  We still want to have a Webinar series. We are working on the logistics of doing that.
  
  We are still hoping to do a Lightning Talks event this year in the Fall, and also an event at Brandeis University that we can organize with Khalilah’s help.

- **Student Relations (Jill/Katie)**
  
  We don’t have a bit update for this month.
  
  We have to reach out to the Simmons SLA Chapter about who the new Simmons SLA student chapter president is.
  
  We are planning the Fall Day on the Job event, as well as a Fall Dine Around.

- **New Business**
  
  No

- **Adjourn**
  
  The meeting was adjourned at 1:03pm.
Website Transition

October 18, 2018 Categories: News & Notes

Firstly, we’d like to thank everyone in the community who has stayed with us through the difficulties we’ve experienced with our website this year. To address these problems, we are in the process of moving towards a more stable platform. SLA Chapter sites are moving to Connect Microsites. This is the same platform that has been hosting our community discussion forums. In addition to the Connect features SLA is already using, now each Chapter will get a home page hosted by Connect.

You may have already noticed some changes to Connect as this transition begins. We are still using WordPress at the moment with the SLA organizational wide goal of migrating to Connect by March. We appreciate your input and feedback. If you have any questions or comments, please contact Joy McNally Brandow, Nancy Burt, or myself.

Thank you,

Dana Eckstein Berkowitz
Call for ResumeX Volunteers

October 22, 2018 Categories: News & Notes

SLA@Simmons is very excited to announce our Fall 2018 ResumeX event!

ResumeX is a speed dating style career development workshop in which LIS professionals review current graduate students’ resumes and cover letters, offering constructive feedback for improvement.

ResumeX will be held on **Tuesday, November 27th**, at Simmons University. There will be two one-hour rounds of feedback: 5:00-6:00pm and 6:00-7:00pm. Food and beverages as well as parking vouchers will be provided.

**If you are interested in volunteering, please email sla@simmons.edu.** In your email, please indicate whether you would like to volunteer for one or both time slots.

Thanks in advance for your participation!
Award Nominations Now Open!

November 20, 2018 Categories: News & Notes

We are looking for nominations for the following Chapter Awards that honor the best and brightest in our chapter.

**Chapter Achievement Award:** Recognizing a chapter member for outstanding committee work, performance in office, or execution of event-related duties during this program year.

**Distinguished Service Award:** Recognizing a chapter member for a sustained record of supporting chapter activities over the years. These may be for service on one or more committees, by holding various offices, or for managing different events, that when considered cumulatively have notably furthered the life of the chapter.

**Special Recognition Award:** Conferred on longstanding chapter members as they cap their careers and approach a well-deserved retirement, in recognition of what they have done or meant to the chapter.


If you have any questions, please contact Dana Eckstein Berkowitz at dana.ecks AT gmail.com

Regards,

Awards Committee: Dana Eckstein Berkowitz, Caren Torrey, Margaret Dugan
Chapter Awards and Annual Business Meeting

February 11, 2019 Categories: News & Notes

The Annual Business Meeting was held Jan 9, 2019. Many members joined the call to discuss the 2018 recap of SLA NE. Each of the committee chairs shared news and updates on their committees.

We hosted four events and had a table at SLA Annual for the second year. The annual conference included a commemorative social event in honor of Jim Matarazzo.

Chapter awards were presented:

- **Chapter Achievement Award** — Peter Moon

  o Presented to an individual who has done an outstanding job in their committee assignment(s) over the past year

- **Distinguished Service Award** — Toby Pearlstein

  o Awarded to a member who has consistently over the years given their time and efforts to ensure the continuing success of the chapter

Khalilah Gambrell motioned to rename the SLA NE Student Stipend Award in honor on Jim Matarazzo. The motion was unanimously passed by the board and attending members. The official name will be announced shortly.

The 2019 Officers were announced:

- President: Caren Torrey
- President-elect: Kayleigh Bohémier
- Treasurer: Bob Kowalski
- Secretary: Kelly Bunting
- Communications Director: Dana Eckstein Berkowitz

The Chapter is now accepting volunteers for 2019! We have positions in membership, programming, communication, and for webmaster. Please reach out to Caren Torrey or Kayleigh Bohémier to learn about volunteer opportunities.
Feb 26th: SLA New England Dine Around at Dumpling Daughter in Cambridge

February 15, 2019 Categories: Featured, News & Notes

Cross your fingers for good weather and join fellow SLA New England members for our first dine around of the year at the Dumpling Daughter in Kendall Square – Cambridge. Time to catch up and meet information professionals in a variety of roles and areas. Your Dine Around host is Khalilah Gambrell, Past President SLA New England

Date/Time: Tuesday, Feb 26th at 5:30 pm
Restaurant: Dumpling Daughter: https://www.dumplingdaughter.com/menu-cambridge
Location: 73 Ames St Cambridge, MA 02142
Nearest Train Station: Kendall Square (Red Line)
RSVP by sending me an email via SLA Connect or gambrell9899@gmail.com on Sunday, Feb. 24th
Cost: Just what you eat and drink
James M. Matarazzo Student Stipend Award for the 2019 SLA Conference

February 17, 2019 Categories: News & Notes

SLA New England is pleased to announce the James M. Matarazzo Student Stipend Award in the amount of $1,250, available to a current MLIS student in the New England area to attend the 2019 SLA Conference, held in Cleveland, OH.

The Special Libraries Association (SLA) is a nonprofit global organization for innovative information professionals and their strategic partners. SLA serves more than 7,000 members in 75 countries in the information profession, including corporate, academic, and government information specialists. SLA promotes and strengthens its members through learning, advocacy, and networking initiatives.

Why attend the SLA Annual Conference?
- Networking opportunities – share your experiences and learn from other information professionals.
- Over 200 events, including educational programs, networking events, receptions, and tours.
- The latest technologies from leading industry partners, all under one roof in the INFO-EXPO Hall.

James M. Matarazzo Student Stipend Award Criteria

QUALIFICATIONS:
- Be currently enrolled as a degree candidate at an ALA-accredited academic program in Library and Information Science.
- Be a member of SLA – award may go to covering student membership fee if not already a current member.
- Be a first time attendee of a SLA conference.

APPLICATION PROCESS:
Submit a document containing the following information/elements:
- Full name
- Academic affiliation: Institution and Program
- Start date of program; number of semesters and courses completed as of December 2018; and anticipated date of graduation
- Contact information, including mailing address, telephone, and email
- Other SLA division awards, if any, for which you are applying
- An essay of no more than 1 page (see details below), double-spaced
- Current resume

ESSAY DESCRIPTION:
Write a 1-page, double-spaced essay on why you should attend the annual conference and how the conference will benefit your career aspirations.

Submissions will be judged based on originality and clarity as well as inclusion of all required information. Spelling, grammar, and completion of all required information will count in judging.

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATION SUBMISSION:
Friday, March 29, 2019.

APPLICATION SUBMISSION:
Completed applications should be emailed as a single file attachment in Microsoft Word or PDF to Jill Aberdale & Katie Glasoe, SLA New England Student Relations Committee Co-Chairs, at the following email address: jillian.aberdale@gmail.com &/or glakat210@gmail.com

Please contact Jill &/or Katie with questions about the application process.

Post Award:
Awardee will be required to write a short post about his/her conference experience for the SLA New England Website.
Awardee is encouraged to serve a one-year term as a member of the Student Relations Committee of the SLA New England Chapter (may be accomplished virtually, if the recipient is no longer a New England resident following graduation).

Notification and Award Distribution:
Applicants will receive notification of award status by the middle of April.

The recipient of the award will receive a one-time stipend of $1,250 which may be applied to SLA membership costs, SLA student conference registration fee, transportation, and lodging costs. The recipient is responsible for making their own conference and registration arrangements. Any costs above and beyond the stipend amount will be the personal responsibility of the recipient.
SLA Leadership Symposium

February 20, 2019 Categories: News & Notes

Recently President Elect Kayleigh Bohémier attended the SLA Leadership Symposium in New Orleans. Read about her experience below!

As I traveled to the airport the day before the SLA Leadership Symposium, I had many nebulous questions and only a few goals: I wanted to know what was expected of unit leaders from SLA and to network with colleagues and fellow SLA volunteers in person.

The next day, Dana Eckstein Berkowitz, Michael Sholinbeck (one of the DICE co-conveners), and I encountered one another in the lobby. We were all interested in seeing the Voodoo Museum, and we had a bit of downtime before we needed to be anywhere. The Voodoo Museum is small, with about two rooms of space and a gift shop. From the mobile web site, it wasn’t obvious that it was an active sacred site, so if you have the opportunity to go, I recommend making sure you have a few dollar bills and coins. We walked back through the French Quarter, which has classic architecture similar to other former French colony cities like Montréal.

That night, there was an opening reception where many of us took photos with Mardi Gras beads and masks. After the reception, I tried my first Escape Room with some colleagues in the Physics-Astronomy-Mathematics Division. There was a sports game that day, so we made our way past overflowing bars and street parties until we reached the location. We solved the puzzle well within our time, and I am pleased to report that you’re not actually locked into a room — they have to leave a door accessible to comply with safety regulations.

On Monday morning, leadership consultant Jon Hockman began the program with a presentation and guided prompts to help us clarify why we were there and what we wanted out of the experience. This was great for tackling my nebulous and vague ideas, and it forced me to think hard about what I needed out of the program to be an effective leader.

In our leadership workbook, I wrote down that I wanted to connect with others entering unit leadership, current leaders who have insight into how communication in SLA can be improved, and those in very different volunteer roles from me. I also wanted new ideas about being an engaged President Elect and a better sense of the core goals that will have the most value for our chapter given the realistic limitations of time and energy for both our volunteers and our members.

A big part of the current President Elect’s responsibilities centers on engaging with SLA New England membership and working to keep people engaged. Engagement requires reconciling my own values (digital minimalism) with the overwhelming number of tools we could use. I don’t have a Facebook, Snapchat, or Instagram account, and the only social networking tool I use professionally is LinkedIn. How do we ensure that all of our members are included and feel like part of the SLA NE community while encouraging healthy boundaries?

SLA Connect, which I learned to appreciate and embrace during the symposium, is a great solution to this. One of the best takeaways from the Leadership Symposium (for me) was to think about good ways we can use it to stay connected. Unlike a Facebook group or list of people on Twitter, we license a platform and can control our content, which makes SLA Connect (or whatever comes next) resilient to the ebb and flow of social media platform popularity. It keeps us intergenerationally accessible, too, given that not all generations are on all social media sites equally. SLA Connect is our own place focused on making us better professionals, connecting us to volunteer opportunities, and enabling communication with other information services colleagues who have jobs and lives both like and unlike our own.

On Monday, I participated in a lunch discussion about diversity and inclusion (at the DICE table), and on Tuesday, there were two sessions during lunch — one on membership and the other on rewards and recognition of volunteer efforts/achievement.

The Tuesday nuts-and-bolts training session is something I would highly recommend to anyone coming into a unit leadership position. I learned so much about how the President Elect position fits into the larger SLA organization.

Finally, Hal Kirkwood, our SLA President, discussed the SLA Board’s goals and strategic planning. SLA’s membership has decreased due to the 2008 financial crisis and changes in the information profession, and this year’s SLA Board wants to blaze a trail forward from instability to renewal. They are currently in an incubation phase in which all ideas are on the table, no matter how weird, and the discussions are happening behind closed doors to give them some brainstorming privacy. Later in the spring and summer, these discussions should have coalesced enough to make SLA member feedback necessary (and encouraged). If you want to keep informed, please read the emails from the SLA Board and President so you can attend webinars or give asynchronous feedback once they reach that stage.

My hope is that you will all join me in thinking about SLA Connect a bit more, perhaps committing to posting a bit more often, just to see how it goes. I still have a ways to go in consolidating my SLA Leadership Symposium notes, but am looking forward to taking what I learned to make our chapter stronger!
November 2018 Board Meeting Minutes

February 28, 2019 Categories: Meeting Minutes, News & Notes

Meeting Type: Board Meeting

Chapter Name: SLA-NE

Date, Time, and Place: Friday, November 9th, 2018; 12-1pm; virtual

Name of the convening officer and secretary (or their substitutes), and if an executive board meeting, the names of those present:

Barbara Williams
Bob Kowalski
Caren
Christine Geluk
Dana
Jillian Aberdale
Katie
Khalilah G.
Mart Perez
Susan McGovern
Joy McNally-Brandow

AGENDA:

Meeting officially started at 12:03pm.

Simmons Stuff (Katie and Jill):

We had to reschedule the Dine Around, because the place we wanted to go to was right near Fenway Park, and it happened to fall during one of the World Series home games. We hope to have it during December. For the Day on the Job event, we had about 15 students total, and about 9 hosts. We were able to pair people pretty well, based on where they were located, and based on their interests.

Nominations Update (Joy)

We have Kelly Bunting running for the Secretary position. We are still looking for people for the Communications Director and President Elect positions. I charge all of you to reach out to your networks to see if we can find anyone to fill those positions. Think about who you know, and who you work with. I’d love to have the Board Elections in the next week or so because I am hoping to have a virtual Annual Business Meeting in December.

Website Migration Update (Chrissy/Karen/Dana)

We still have a long way to go in terms of Website migration. They released training online, which Dana said she watched. Dana is ready to move forward with the migration. There really is no effective way to transfer the information from the old WordPress site to the new website. Changing the platform that the website is on hasn’t changed the fact that HQ hasn’t been very responsive to us. Dana said that she’d really like help with reviewing the material currently on the WordPress site, so that she can figure out what needs to be transferred to the new site, and which files we can discard (due to age or whatnot). Khalilah said that she would help with this.

Transitions (Susan)

Just that, if you are on the Board, and you’re leaving the board at the end of this year, if there is anything that you’ve created during your term on the board that you think would be useful, please put it into the Google Docs.

Awards (Joy)

She reached out to Maureen Dugan to be on the Awards Committee. Joy said that she needs a few more people to serve on the Awards Committee. She needs someone to Chair the committee. You would post something to Connect, asking for nominees for the various awards and prizes, and if you get multiple nominees, Dana said that she could serve on this Committee. Caren said that she could be on the committee too.

Chrissy made a motion to approve the September Board Meeting Minutes.

Bob seconded the motion.

The motion passed at 12:29pm.

Joy said that she has a family emergency that she has to deal with that necessitates her stepping away from her role for a few weeks. Khalilah and Nancy will be
stepping up.