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Science-Technology Division

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Science-Technology Division

Pam Enrici, Chair

The objectives of the Science-Technology Division shall be to draw together those members of the Special Libraries Association having an interest in the role of library and information science as applied to the recording, retrieval and dissemination of knowledge and information in all areas of science and technology, and to promote and improve the communication, dissemination and use of such knowledge for the benefit of libraries and their users.

Time moves fast - no, time goes at the speed of light! It is about a year and a half since I was elected Chair-Elect to the Sci-Tech Division. Chair-Elect time is over and now I am Chair. What I've chosen to get involved with is still sinking in. Many, many thanks to Christine Whitaker and Ann Koopman for their help. As writers frequently say in their introduction, any mistakes I make are my own and not my advisors.

An organization like SLA is only as good as its' volunteers and we have a great group of volunteers this coming year. With so many electronic ways to keep in touch, people like me who are geographically isolated can actually attend "virtual" meetings and keep in touch with other members of a committee or SLA as a whole. So please, think about volunteering. The old saying, "many hands makes light work," is really true. The more volunteers we have, the easier it is. For those of you new to the profession, it's a good way to meet your peers and for those of us who have been members for a while, it's good to give back to the profession. In tough economic times, every dime we spend needs to be relevant to our needs, so you need to let the officers know what you want and need from the division and SLA. If you want to volunteer, contact either the chair of the committee you might be interested in or myself. You can go to http://units.sla.org/division/dst/Officers/officers.html to see what positions are vacant or see who the chair of a particular committee is. I'll be writing more about volunteers next issue but I would especially like to acknowledge Ann Koopman. She just finished the three year stint, chair-elect, chair, and past-chair responsibilities in addition to serving as chair of two committees.

Ann, you deserve a big round of applause for all your fine work.

Happy birthday SLA! We celebrate SLA's 100th birthday this year. The keynote speakers for our annual conference are Colin Powell for our opening and for the closing, there is a panel consisting of Judy Woodruff, moderator and Robyn Meredith, Neil deGrasse Tyson and John Patrick. It is a time for looking back to see where we have come but equally important is looking ahead to the next millenium.
SLA has created their Centennial Website at: http://www.sla.org/centennial.

Our conference this year and many other activities, especially with the various chapters, are about our history and future. Early bird registration for the annual conference is available until April 3.

SLA has contracted with a number of hotels - some expensive, others less so. Make your reservations early so that you can get your choice of hotel. If you need to share a room, use the Sci-Tech Listserv to find a roommate. (If you aren't currently subscribed, you can send an e-mail to lyris@sla.lyris.net with the Subscribe command in the body of the message. No subject line is necessary. Please do not include any signature or formatted text in the message. Your text message should read: Subscribe SLA-DST your-e-mail_address "FirstName LastName").

Keep an eye on the Sci-Tech listserv for more information about our division's activities and, of course, read SciTech News. Check with your local chapter to see what activities they are planning. If you are like me and it's a several hour drive (or more) to attend your local chapter meetings, do try to find the time to go but if that is impossible, see what electronic activities they have available. The Sci-Tech Division will be having at least one electronic class this year and keep an eye out for the poster session from the annual meeting that will be posted this fall if you can't make the annual conference. Watch for our contributed papers going electronic! More information about that will be on our listserv.

Please remember to renew your membership to SLA (and to our Division!).

SLA realizes that many of us have had changes in employment, so they have restructured the dues so that there is a third tier.

Members with incomes equivalent to USD$35,000 or more have dues of USD$160. Members with incomes between the equivalent of USD$35,000 and USD$18,000 have dues of US$99.

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Members with incomes below USD$18,000 have dues of USD$35. (The category for members who become unemployed providing a one-time, one-year opportunity to pay dues of US $49, has now been eliminated.) Members will now be able to pay the lowest dues as long as their income is below the equivalent to US$18,000, regardless of their employment status.

Susan Fingerman is stepping down as editor to the SciTech News after 4 years. This is a quarterly publication and so there is an extraordinary amount of work involved. In addition, it involves not only working with the Sci-Tech Division but the Chemistry and Engineering Divisions, the Aerospace Section of the Engineering Division, and the Materials Research and Manufacturing Section of the Chemistry Division. Susan has had to work with each of the divisions and sections in order to put together an extremely high-quality newsletter. This cannot have been an easy task but she has done it brilliantly. Thank you Susan for doing such a great job as editor. James Manasco will be our new editor. You can read more about the change in this issue of Sci-Tech News.

SLA begins a new century this year. There will be great things in store for us this year and the next century. Keep up the good work, SLA!

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S. Kirk Cabeen Travel Stipend Award
Sponsored By The Science-Technology Division

The S. Kirk Cabeen Travel Stipend Award is offered to a library school student or first time conference attendee. The US$750 award is to be used toward the expense of attending the Special Libraries Association (SLA) Annual Conference in Washington, DC, USA June 2009.

Qualifications:

- Be a library school student or first time attendee
- Be a current member of SLA, with preference going to Science-Technology Division members
- If NOT a student, then must be attending his or her first SLA conference

Nominations:

Self-nominations are encouraged.
Send a typed and signed document including complete title, Library School and anticipated graduation date, employer, and all professional and personal contact information.

All nominations must also include the following:
A short essay (500 words or less) on the theme of the 2009 Annual Conference: "Information to Inspiration: Knowledge & Vision Shaping the Future." The essay should be double-spaced. Neatness, spelling and grammar will count in judging. Supporting documentation must include a current curriculum vita OR resume for the candidate, significant publications, supporting letters, etc.

Applications should also mention if you are currently applying for other SLA division awards.

Deadline For Nominations: March 1, 2009.

Nominations and all accompanying materials should be sent to Sheila Rosenthal, Chair of the Sci-Tech Division Awards Committee, at the following email address: slr@sei.cmu.edu

Post Award Requirements:

1. Recipient (s) will write a brief article (approximately 1,000 words) on the conference experience for the November 2009 *SciTech News*.
2. Recipient (s) will be asked to serve on the Science-Technology Division Awards Committee in the following year to provide for the continuity and enthusiasm of the awards.

Notification:

1. Applicants will receive notification of award status by mid March 2009. The award checks will be sent to the recipient as soon as the receipts are received by the Awards Chairperson.
2. The recipients' names will be posted to the Science-Technology Division's Web site
3. The award will be announced and presented to the recipient at the Science-Technology Division's Annual Business meeting/breakfast.

Call for Sci-Tech Nominations for 2010

It's that time already! Your Sci-Tech Division is looking for nominees to run for election as Secretary or as Chair-Elect of the Division. You may volunteer yourself or recommend a colleague for the Nominating Committee to consider.

Secretary

- Serves a term of 2 years (2010 and 2011).
- Records the actions of the Board and communicates them to the Association.
- Manages the balloting of the Division's annual election (lately on Survey Monkey).
- Travel support is available, if needed.

Chair-Elect / Chair / Past-Chair

- Serves for 3 years on the Executive Board, moving from Chair-Elect to Chair to Past-Chair (2010-2012).
- As 2010 Chair-Elect, manages the Program Committee for the 2011 Annual Conference.
- As 2011 Chair, makes Board appointments and leads the Division.
- As 2012 Past-Chair, revises government documents as needed and advises the 2012 Chair and Board.
- Informally, serves a 4th year as chair of the Nominating Committee
- Travel support is available, if needed.
- The Chair-Elect is supported by a Programming Committee and a Vendor Relations Committee for fund-raising; this allows the Chair-Elect to focus on quality programming.

Check the Division's Recommended Practices document for further detail about the roles.

We work at making Division jobs *FUN* and *REWARDING*, not to mention *GOOD FOR YOUR RESUME*. Why not make this the year you say "YES, I CAN" to your Division?

Please contact any member of the 2009 Nominating Committee to recommend a candidate (including yourself) for either position. We'll be accepting recommendations for consideration through the end of May, with the intention of announcing nominations at the Annual Business Meeting in June 2009. Your recommendation will be held in confidence by the Committee, if requested.

2009 Nominating Committee:

Ann Koopman, Chair (ann.koopman@jefferson.edu)
Mary Frances Lembo (mf.lembo@pnl.gov)
Debal Chandra Kar (dckar@teri.res.in)