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Engineering Division News

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Engineering Division

Dee Magnoni, Chair



The objectives of the Engineering Division are to provide an association for those having an interest in library and information science as they apply to engineering and the physical sciences and to promote the use of materials and knowledge for the benefit of libraries and other educational organizations.

The end of each year marks a season of thanks, and as I finish my year as Chair of the Engineering Division, I am thankful for all of the support and wisdom I have received over the year. Daureen Nesdill, as Past-Chair of the division, provided me with written guidelines as well as personal guidance throughout the year. Each of us learns a great deal in a leadership position, and the greatest gift a leader can offer is to share those lessons. Thank you, Daureen!

Planning the annual conference is always a major goal of the year, and I had many partners here. Gale Harris, as the Aerospace Chair, worked on the Aerospace conference planning. Sara Davis developed an outstanding CE course on standards, as well as a sustainability course that could not run this year, but will hopefully be offered in the future. Sara was also a key person on our partnering team, along with Kathy Nordhaus. Helen Josephine and Cheryl Cove worked together to put together our annual Standards Program. Both were mentored by Lee Pharis, who put together wonderful programs for a number of years. Ruth Wolfish worked with me to make our USPTO tour a huge success. Kathryn Breining, as Past-Chair of the Aerospace Section, attended a couple of conference planning meetings with me.

None of our Division initiatives would be possible without an efficient and responsive treasurer, and Andy Shimp was superlative in this role. Member recognition is extremely important, and Bing Wang chaired our Awards Committee. Thanks both to Bing and her committee members.

Our board is a close one, and we enjoy mixing our board meetings with meals. My hat is off to Mary-Frances Panetti for her heroic success in keeping track of what was said and by whom during our noisy and somewhat chaotic meetings. Communication within a group is critical, and the Engineering Division has a great team to keep us in touch and moving in the same direction. Bob Tolliver has moderated our discussion list, and Tina Gheen has edited our web site. The division web site underwent a redesign, and will continue to evolve as the Association and Division branding are defined.

Our governing documents should be approved

or ready for a final vote when this column appears. Daureen Nesdill, Sara Davis, and Laurie Allen have all worked hard to rework this document. Of course, this is the first step to the strategic planning process of the division, so stay tuned for more from Laurie Allen in 2010. Cheryl Hansen continued keeping up with our membership initiatives, sending letters of welcome and tracking our numbers. Cheryl also shared lots of wisdom from her experience across divisions and positions. Sometimes our volunteers take on multiple roles, and Bonnie Osif led our archives and our mentoring initiatives. The division will be taking a close look at our mentoring program as we head into our strategic planning phase.

Along with their current year of contributions, planning and leadership, two of our board members have looked forward to the division's plans for 2010. Laurie Allen will chair the Engineering Division and Hema Ramachandran will chair the Aerospace section. I know that they will find a strong leadership team, and I wish them both a wonderful year. Of course, I will be happy to offer what wisdom I have gained this year, and our traditions as well as our new plans will move forward.

Outside the world of SLA but inside the world of engineering, the National Academy of Engineering has launched an amazing cross-disciplinary project with international scope: the Grand Challenge for Engineering. An international group of technology thinkers was asked to identify our leading challenges in engineering for the 21st century. Their thoughts and the actions that are ongoing can all be found on the Grand Challenge's web site: <http://www.engineeringchallenges.org/>. What do you think is our greatest challenge? Vote! You can also contribute ideas and comments using forms on the web site. What can we do in our work places and in our association to help solve these problems? Please send me your thoughts.

I close my column as our membership is on the verge of a vote for a name change. There have been many passionate voices in this vote's debate. We began the alignment process to provide tools to move the association forward as well as to strengthen individual members within

our own organizations. I want to personally thank all of the association members and staff who worked so hard to make this process a reality. I am grateful to be in a profession that feels passionately about our work and our identity, and I look forward to seeing our association and our membership move forward together into our next 100 years.

Thank you for a wonderful year. ❖

Questions? Comments? Feedback? Contact me:

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CALL FOR NOMINATIONS AND APPLICATIONS

\$1500 Elsevier /SLA Engineering Librarian of the Year Award

This award, sponsored by Elsevier and the SLA Engineering Division, highlights the accomplishments and contributions of members to the engineering librarian profession. The winner must be present to accept the award at the annual Engineering Division Business Meeting held during the annual SLA conference in New Orleans, Louisiana, June 13-16, 2010.

Prospective candidates are encouraged to nominate themselves—or they may be nominated by a colleague or associate.

Criteria for entry are:

1. Membership in good standing in the SLA Engineering Division as of January 1, 2009.
2. Distinguished achievement(s) in the engineering library profession, through an exceptional contribution on the job, within the SLA Engineering Division, or within the industry at large. Accomplishment(s) should have taken place within the calendar year immediately preceding the nomination/application. However, in selected cases, based solely on the Awards Committee's judgment, recognition may be given for ongoing, long-term contribution(s).

Instructions for submissions:

Submit the nomination/application by February 9, 2010.

Provide full name, job title, address, telephone numbers, e-mail address, and a maximum one-page statement of the nominee's qualifications to:

Jane Stephens
Sterling C. Evans Library
Texas A&M University Libraries
5000 TAMU
College Station, TX 77843-5000

Or to:
jstephens@tamu.edu / Subject line = SLA AWARD
979-845-5382 (voice mail)

**Special Libraries Association Engineering Division
\$1000 IEEE Continuing Education Stipend - Call for Applications**

Stipend to attend the SLA Annual Meeting in
New Orleans, LA, June 13-16, 2010

IEEE (Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers) is sponsoring for SLA Engineering Division members a travel stipend up to \$1000 toward payment of expenses incurred while attending any Continuing Education course offered at the annual SLA conference in New Orleans, LA, June 13-16, 2010.

The IEEE Stipend will be given to the qualified member who submits an essay, of three or fewer double-spaced typed pages, which is judged to be the best paper that addresses "How the member will benefit professionally from a continuing education course." Please email Bing Wang (bing.wang@library.gatech.edu) for a list of Continuing Education courses offered during the SLA 2010 conference. The winner will also be required to submit an article to the Engineering Division newsletter (SciTech News) within twelve months of completion on how the course helped them in library applications.

Qualifications for Entering Competition:

Be a member of the SLA Engineering Division in good standing for at least one year as of January 1, 2009.

Special Instructions:

Type your full name (without any additional personal information) at the top of each essay page. Double space the typing on all pages.

Deadline for Submission: *February 9, 2010.*

The winner must be present to accept the award at the annual Engineering Division Business Meeting during the SLA 2010 conference.

Submit Entries for the award to:

Bing Wang, SLA-ENG Awards Committee
Georgia Tech Library & Information Center
Atlanta, Georgia, 30332-0900
Phone: (404) 894-0816
E-mail: bing.wang@library.gatech.ed

**Special Libraries Association Engineering Division
\$1200 Inspec Stipend Award -- Call for Applications**

Award to attend the SLA Annual Conference in
New Orleans, LA, 13 - 16 June 2010

Inspec is sponsoring for library school students the award of a \$1200.00 travel stipend toward payment of expenses incurred while attending the annual Special Libraries Association conference in New Orleans, LA, June 13-16, 2010.

The Inspec Award will be given to the qualified student who submits an essay of three or less double spaced typed pages that is judged to be the best essay submitted describing the following scenario:

"Describe and propose the use of a web 2.0 technology to connect users with information in an engineering library."

Qualifications for Entering Award Competition:

Be a student member of the Engineering Division of the Special Libraries Association.

Special Instructions:

1. Give your full name, address, telephone number, e mail address, and a statement, on one page, of your qualifications, as given above, for entering the award competition. Include the name of your library school.
2. Type your full name (without any additional personal information) at the top of each essay page. Double space the typing on all pages.

Deadline for Submission: *February 9, 2010*

Submit Entries for the award to:

Bette Finn, SLA Engineering Division Awards Committee
Georgia Tech Library and Information Center
Georgia Institute of Technology
Atlanta, Georgia 30332 0900
Phone: (404) 894 1790 Fax: (404) 894 8190
E mail: bette.finn@library.gatech.edu

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