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Aerospace Section News

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Aerospace Section

Hema Ramachandran, Chair

The Aerospace Section of the Engineering Division encourages communication and cooperation among information professionals concerned with aerospace, aeronautical and related technologies. In addition, it fosters dialog with entities such as NASA, the AIAA and other important sources of technical data and bibliographical services.



It's hard to believe that as I write this article to meet the deadline the first month of 2010 is over! We just returned from the Leadership Summit. The conference was at the wonderful St. Louis Union Station Marriott – the Union Station has literally been turned into a hotel. If you have occasion to visit St. Louis I thoroughly recommend this hotel. Our colleagues in the St. Louis Chapter were wonderful hosts.

The Leadership Summit is a wonderful place to network with elected officers, meet the SLA leadership, catch up with friends, make new friends AND of course work on details for our programs in New Orleans. I particularly enjoyed the keynote address by Jim Kane. Jim is a loyalty strategist and a leading authority on building and maintaining loyal business relationships. His two books *The Loyalty Switch* and *Virtually Loyal* are about to be published. His presentation was entertaining and thought-provoking. The conclusion was particularly entertaining as he showed us a presentation with little known facts about members of SLA - you held your breath wondering if the next slide was about you!

I want to thank Gale Harris, 2009 Chair, for putting on a fabulous program in Washington DC. The session "Mission to Mars" was a runaway hit with standing room only! Gale graciously continues to guide and show me the ropes as we plan the program in New Orleans and I am very grateful for her support.

Monday, June 14, is Aerospace Day in New Orleans! We will start with the Aerospace Business Meeting and Breakfast. We hope to present the Mandel Award. We are running late with the nomination and selection process for the Mandel Award but I remain hopeful that we will have a recipient. If you know someone who is eligible please consider nominating them or yourself! Here are the details about the award http://units.sla.org/division/deng/engdiv_mandel_award.html March 15 is the last day for nominations.

Also at the breakfast you will have the pleasure of meeting Adrienne Jones – the 2011 Chair-Elect of the Section.

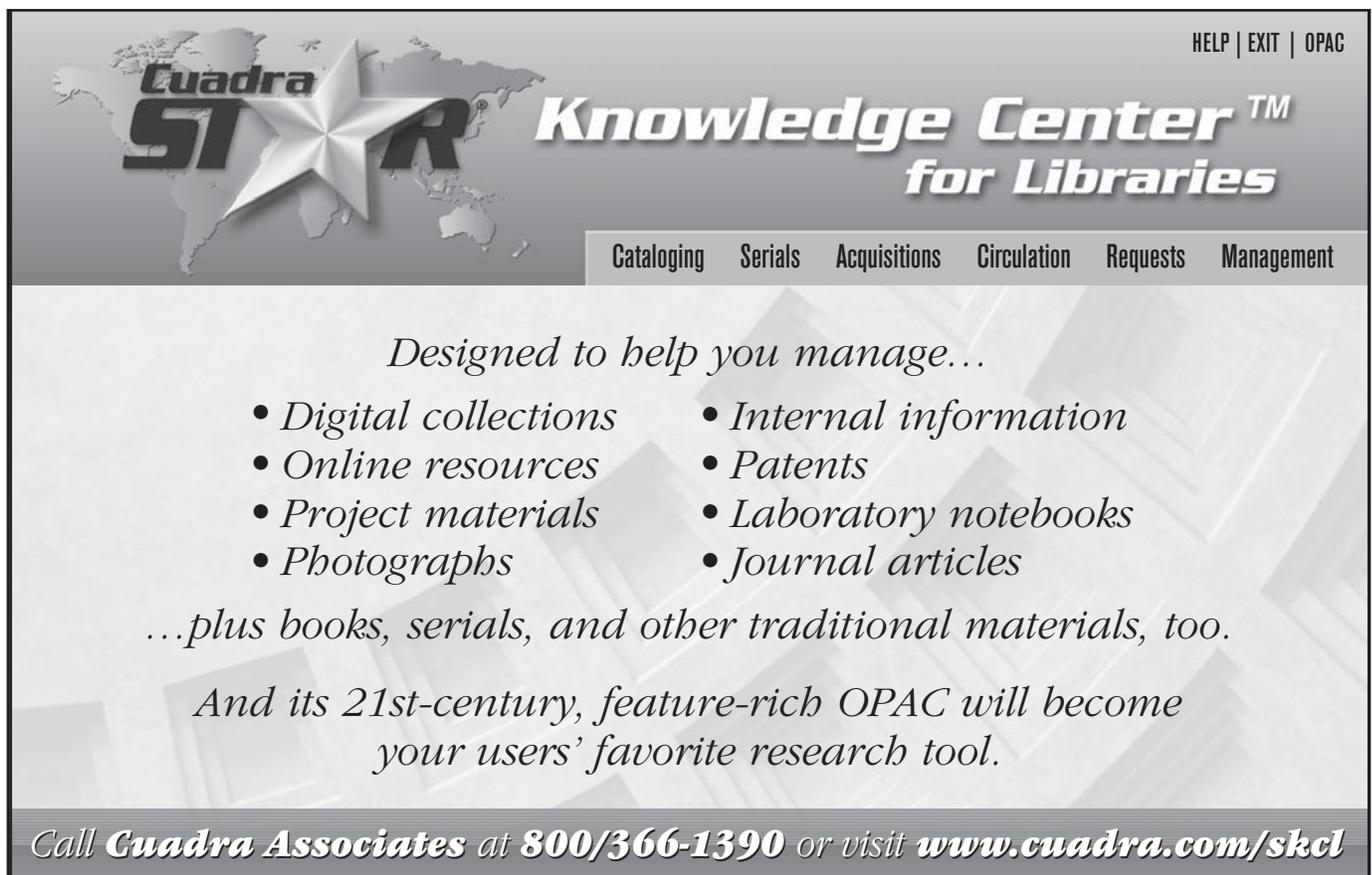
Adrienne is a Senior Project Manager, specializing in social media, communication, and technology integration at Lockheed Martin Aeronautics. She works on a variety of special projects related to harnessing the power of social media in business, career development, and workforce strategy. She is a member of Beta Phi Mu, Phi Kappa Phi, and an honorary member of Phi Kappa Pi. Adrienne is in the process of completing her Ph.D in Information Science from The University of North Texas. Following in the footsteps of Jim Kane, here are things about Adrienne that are not in her bio <http://tinyurl.com/yhoo8yu> (if you get a login message, please hit cancel).

Back to New Orleans: we will have two back-to-back sessions. I have been collaborating with the Education Division on a two-part Aerospace program on "Workplace Information Literacy" (the Academic Division is also co-sponsoring the events). Part 1 is a panel of national experts on the topic. Part 2 is a panel of corporate and academic librarians in engineering making brief presentations followed by a discussion and exchange on the challenges of teaching information literacy and research skills to their respective constituencies – namely engineers in their company or engineering students about to graduate and enter the workforce. "Education Libraries," a peer-reviewed journal sponsored by the Education Division, will publish a special issue devoted to workplace literacy and the presenters in Part 1 have agreed to publish their papers in this issue. Erin Lanham, Chair of the Education Division, and I will write a guest editorial.

Laurie Allen, Engineering Chair, assisted by others has been busy working on this year's programming. Please see her column for more details. Of course there will be more sessions than we can ever find time to attend - even harder given the attractions of New Orleans!

I am very glad that SLA is holding the event in New Orleans to show support for this great city. I am particularly excited about our keynote speakers - the dynamic duo of James Carville and Mary Matalin. ❖

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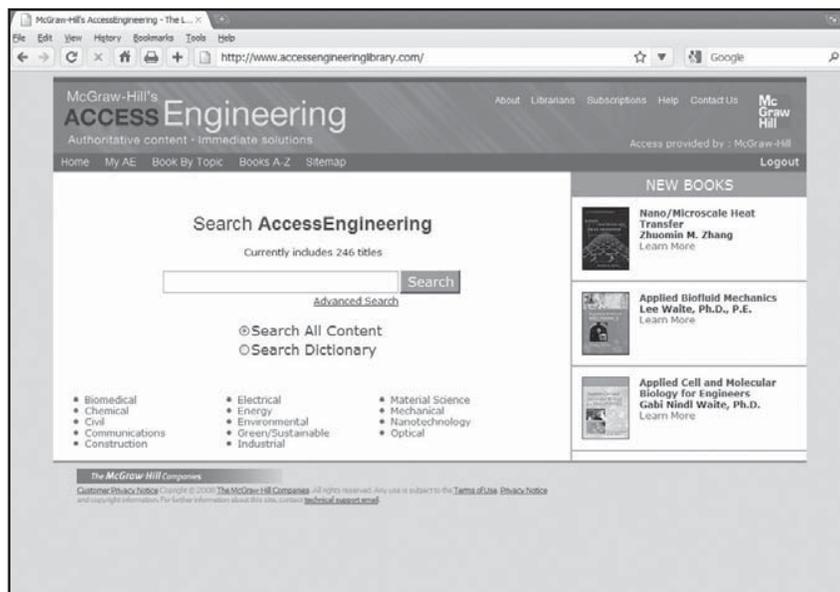
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