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Sci-Tech Candidates for Chair-Elect and Treasurer

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Sci-Tech Candidates for Chair-Elect and Treasurer

Submitted by Christine Whitaker, Chair, Sci-Tech Division Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee is delighted to present a slate of candidates this year for Chair-Elect and Treasurer. No additional nominations were received from the floor at the Division's annual business meeting or by petition.

The election will be conducted electronically, with balloting to take place in September 2010. The URL and instructions will be sent to Division members via email.

Get to Know Your Candidate for Chair-Elect

The Chair-Elect will serve a three-year term as Chair-Elect/Chair/Past-Chair from January 2011 through December 2013. The first year, the Chair-Elect oversees programming planning for the 2012 annual conference. The second year, the Chair leads the Board and makes committee appointments. The third year, the Past-Chair is responsible for governing documents.

Cheryl A. Hansen

Background & Experience:

Research Librarian for Engineering Systems, Inc. (ESI) headquartered in Aurora, Illinois with offices in Colorado, Texas, Louisiana, Missouri, Georgia and Florida.

Previous positions were with Triodyne Inc., The Illinois College of Optometry Library and the University of Wisconsin-Madison K. F. Wendt Engineering Library.

Cheryl received her MLS from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1980 and her BA in Art History in 1979. She has been an active member of SLA since 1984. She is a member of the Engineering Division, the Science & Technology Division and the Illinois Chapter of SLA. As a Sci-Tech Division member Cheryl served on the Awards Committee for many years and is currently the Division Treasurer and Business Manager for *SciTech News*. As an Engineering Division member she has served terms as Archivist, Secretary, Awards Committee Member, Membership Chair and Division Chair. In 2006 she was awarded the Elsevier Engineering Information/SLA-Engineering Division Librarian of the Year Award.

Outside of work, Cheryl, her husband and two college age daughters live in Naperville, IL. Cheryl is active in her community, serving in a variety of roles in the schools and her church, for which she has been recognized by Volunteer of the Year and other awards. Ask her about her Kendzora Book of Golden Deeds Award. In her spare time, Cheryl is an avid gardener.

What Challenges do I see for Sci-Tech Librarians in the next five years, and how can the Division help our members meet those challenges?

Sci-Tech Librarians as well as all librarians have seen great changes over the last twenty some years and there are even more changes coming down the road for us. I see several challenges for us yet they are not really new challenges. We have to continue to see our "traditional" jobs change due to economic and technological changes in our workplaces both academic and corporate. We have to promote ourselves, remind our patrons that we are specialists in locating and retrieving and managing information of all types. I see our greatest challenge is keeping up with the technological changes that are happening so very quickly. Not only do we need to keep up with what is changing but we need to be able to use it effectively and evaluate it so we can implement it.

Whether we are academic librarians who are on the front line of teaching the younger generations how to better access information of all types or corporate librarians who are working at fulfilling the varied needs of their patrons, we have to remember that we can help shape the changes by being proactive. Though the most important thing for each of us to remember is to how best serve your own clients, what types of needs do they have and what is the best way for us to help and/or teach them.

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The Sci-Tech Division can help our members by promoting continuing education in a variety of ways that allow all our members to take part. We need to continue to offer relevant sessions at the annual conference. We need to continue to offer online forums in a wide variety of mediums for our members such as Twitter, blogs and the things we don't even know about yet. The Sci-Tech Division allows us to communicate with each other, to help each other and to share with each other. As the world changes, we will need to steer the division through the future.

Get to Know Your Candidate for Treasurer

The Division Secretary serves a two year term, January 2011 to December 2012.

Nevenka Zdravkovska

Background & Experience:

Nevenka Zdravkovska is the head of the Engineering and Physical Sciences Library of the University of Maryland, College Park, a position she has held since 2006. From 1998 to 2006, she was Science Reference Librarian at the Bloomer Science Library, Georgetown University in Washington, DC. Prior to that, she was a librarian at Jefferson Lab, Newport News, VA (1996-1998). She also worked at the Macedonian Academy of Sciences and Arts (Skopje, Macedonia), where she assumed multiple positions during her tenure (1977-1992).

Her activities in SLA's Science-Technology Division include serving as Chair of the International Committee (2006-present), member of the Awards Committee (2007-present), and member of the Vendor Relations Committee (2009-present). She is currently member of the SLA Maryland Chapter Planning Committee for *Xtreme Reference*, a conference to be held on October 21, 2010 at the Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory, Laurel, MD.

Ms. Zdravkovska is a reviewer for *Choice* magazine. She has presented at several conferences: American Society for Engineering Education (ASEE) Annual Conference, International Association of Scientific and Technological University Libraries (IATUL) Annual Conference, and International Conference of Asian Special Libraries (ICoASL) to name just a few.

Ms. Zdravkovska received her Master of Library Science degree from Texas Woman's University, Denton, TX. She earned her Bachelor of Science in Engineering Physics degree from Cyril and Methodius University, Skopje, Macedonia.

What Challenges do I see for Sci-Tech Librarians in the next five years, and how can the Division help our members meet those challenges?

This is an exciting time to be an information professional and/or librarian, especially serving the science and technology fields. Current content in these disciplines is almost exclusively electronic. Journals backfiles, books and proceedings are digitized; discovery systems, commercial and open source, are getting more sophisticated and retrieval is easier. However, this evolution has not translated into more successful ways of providing access to needed resources. Paying for access to the resources is one of the main obstacles. The challenges our profession faces are numerous. In the near future libraries will still be faced with budget shortages. Although in recent months, the economy is slowly improving, this improvement will be slow to translate into budget windfall for libraries. While libraries are faced with less money for collections, for improving services, and for staff salaries, the expectations of our users are increasing. They expect access to more resources in all formats but especially electronic, faster access, and use of the latest social tools and technologies. The challenge for the libraries in this economic situation is to balance the needs of users, with less revenue and less staff. Now more than ever, as organization of information professionals we should strive to help our members fulfill the responsibilities listed on the SLA's Information Professional website [http://www.sla.org/content/SLA/professional/index.cfm], especially in "Gathering evidence to support decisions about the development of new services and products" and "Maintaining current awareness of emerging technologies."

The Mission of Sci-Tech Division (DST) is "to promote and improve the communication, dis-

semination and use of knowledge and information in all areas of science and technology for the benefit of libraries and their users." DST can help its members, coming from all corners of the world, in multiple ways. It is more important than ever to encourage experimentation among its members and facilitate the sharing of members' experiences. We need to learn new tools to better serve our users. Our users embraced social communication faster than us.

Recruiting new members, especially those new to the profession, is also essential. Over the past three years we had some successes, especially with the joint DST student travel stipend with Europe, Asia and Australia/New Zealand Chapters (for students of the respective regions), in addition to the well established S. Kirk Cabeen Student Travel Stipend (awarded since 1972). But once recruited, we need to engage new members by giving them a podium at conferences, and by communicating throughout the year using the tools they use the most and they are most comfortable with.

It will be an honor to be elected Treasurer of SLA's Science-Technology Division. I will be happy to continue bringing new ideas to the Division and to work on the realization of these ideas.

Note from Christine Whitaker: Thanks to Debal Chandra Kar, Ann Koopman, and Nancy Wilmes who all served with me on the Nominating Committee and helped to prepare the slate of candidates. ❖

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