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Aerospace Section

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News from the Aerospace Section

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.



My term as Aerospace Chair is over at the end of December and I will become the Past-Chair and turn the reins of the Aerospace Section over to the very capable and dynamic hands of Adrienne Jones Washburn. She and the incoming Engineering Division Chair, Kathryn Breininger, and Cynthia Eastman (our conference programmer) are hard at work planning the 2011 conference in Philadelphia (June 12-15). If you haven't, please put it on your calendar NOW so that you don't make other plans!

My biggest and most lasting accomplishment may be the moving of the Aerospace listserv from the NASA server to SLA! As many of you have heard it was accomplished in the last month or so. For those who want to subscribe to the listserv or recommend it to colleagues here are the details: <http://www.sla.org/content/community/lists/instruction/index.cfm>.

This major feat could not have been accomplished without the patience and expertise of Edna Paulson and Debra Drummheller working with Jeff Leach at HQ to make the transition. Edna and Debra have graciously agreed to continue as listserv managers until the end of the year as the Engineering Division decides how to proceed.

I would like to thank the Engineering Board for their support over the past 2 years, especially our extraordinary Vendor Relations Chair, Sara Davis, and Laurie Allen, Chair (soon to become Past-Chair) of the Engineering Division. And of course thanks to all the vendors who supported our programs.

I would also like to thank my speakers -- Jay Bhatt, Susan K. Smith, Joan Dubis, Diane Brenes and Joy McNally-- and congratulate them for a thought-provoking and informative session. I am sure we will return to these themes in years to come. Erin Lanham, Chair of Education, was a fabulous partner as we planned, organized, and delivered our two sessions on "Information

Literacy in the Workplace."

As I look back on this year, it was the year of travel for me (India twice, Indonesia, Bali, New Zealand, New Orleans, San Francisco, and let's not forget St. Louis for the Leadership Summit last January) in between lots of hours at the computer as I worked on SLA, scholarship, conference papers, and, oh yes, the "real job." All of it was immensely satisfying professionally. Here are some images that will live on in my memory:

- Getting locked in the conference center at St. Louis (ask Adrienne about it – she helped us break out!).
- Dancing till the wee hours at the IT Division dance party even though we had to be at a session at 8:00 am next day.
- Getting drenched in a New Orleans downpour.
- Using mass transit to get from the airport to the hotel in St. Louis (never again).
- Taking the "red eye" from Los Angeles to DC and functioning on almost no sleep at the conference planners meeting (never again) and planning by "post-its" (it worked but I was worried about what would happen if the post-its fell off – what would James Manasco do?!).

But as Shakespeare would say, "All's well that ends well."

Finally, have you seen the Brigham-Young University Library parody of the Old Spice commercial? If not, you should take a look: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2ArIj236UHs>

In that vein and with "tongue-in-cheek," I offer



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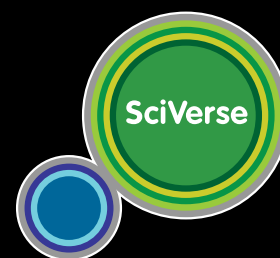
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you the following:

Look at your status, now back at mine, now back to yours, now back to mine. Sadly, yours isn't mine.

But if you stop for a minute and send me an email to volunteer with the Aerospace Section (or the Engineering Division) this could be your status too!

Look down. Now back up. Where are you?

You are Aerospace Chair-Elect!

And to follow suit from Polonius in Hamlet: "Therefore, since brevity is the soul of wit" let me end by wishing you and your family a happy Holiday season and all the best for the New Year. See you in Philadelphia! ❖

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