

August 2006

Science-Technology Division

Mary Frances Lembo

Follow this and additional works at: <https://jdc.jefferson.edu/scitechnews>

[Let us know how access to this document benefits you](#)

Recommended Citation

Lembo, Mary Frances (2006) "Science-Technology Division," *Sci-Tech News*: Vol. 60 : Iss. 3 , Article 8.
Available at: <https://jdc.jefferson.edu/scitechnews/vol60/iss3/8>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Jefferson Digital Commons. The Jefferson Digital Commons is a service of Thomas Jefferson University's [Center for Teaching and Learning \(CTL\)](#). The Commons is a showcase for Jefferson books and journals, peer-reviewed scholarly publications, unique historical collections from the University archives, and teaching tools. The Jefferson Digital Commons allows researchers and interested readers anywhere in the world to learn about and keep up to date with Jefferson scholarship. This article has been accepted for inclusion in Sci-Tech News by an authorized administrator of the Jefferson Digital Commons. For more information, please contact: JeffersonDigitalCommons@jefferson.edu.

Science-Technology Division Mary Frances Lembo, 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.

Our 2006 Annual Conference in Baltimore was truly an outstanding one. Feedback from the session attendees has been very positive and we are using this information to develop future programming. Many thanks go to our committee chairs, moderators, speakers and especially to Janet Hughes, our program planner, for putting together such a great program for us.

Ann Koopman did a superb job in fundraising this year. I would like to thank Ann for her hard work and our vendors for their financial contributions. Without vendor support, the division would be unable to provide quality programming for the annual conference. To ACM, ACS Publications, ASME, ASTM International, Basch Subscriptions, British Library, CAS, CrossRef, CSA, EBSCO, Elsevier, Haworth, IEEE, IET/Inspec, Knovel, Open Text Corporation, ProQuest, Thomson, and YBP a very big **THANK YOU** from the Sci-Tech Division!

Because of the change in governance year, our current elected officers will serve from January to December. We have an excellent slate of candidates for our upcoming elections. Christine Whitaker of the University of South Carolina will be running for the position of Chair Elect and Cheryl Hansen of Engineering Systems Inc., will be running for the position of Treasurer.

I have seen in SLA surveys that one of the main reasons people come to the annual conference is for the networking opportunities. We provided several opportunities for networking at this year's conference. Our Newcomers' Brunch gave us the chance to meet new Division members and touch base with familiar faces. This year, we combined efforts with the Chemistry and Physics-Astronomy-Mathematics Divisions, which made for excellent cross-division networking. The All-

Sciences and Engineering reception at the Capitol City Brewing Company was well attended and a nice way to relax and network with colleagues. And the Sci-Tech and Engineering Happy Hour was a great way to unwind and close out the conference.

If you were unable to attend this year's conference, this issue of *SciTech News* contains session reports on the Division's programming. You may also want to take a look at the SLA Conference Blog: http://slablogger.typepad.com/sla_2006_conference_blog/

What really makes the Sci-Tech Division such an exciting and dynamic one is the support and contributions from its members. I am constantly in awe over the talented and energetic people in this Division. That makes the job of being chair a little bit easier. So if you would like to volunteer to be part of a committee, or if you have any suggestions or comments for the Division, please let me know!

We are already gearing up for another great series of programs in Denver for 2007. Michelle Wilde is our program planner. She has already begun the organizing process and has lined up a number of very informative presentations. We are working with other divisions to co-sponsor innovative sessions and there will be several no-conflict times for visiting the exhibits. The city of Denver is an excellent choice to host the SLA Annual Conference so I hope you will all be able to make plans to be there in 2007. ❖

See you in Denver!
Mary Frances Lembo
Chair, Sci-Tech Division
mf.lembo@pnl.gov

The Science & Technology and Engineering Divisions Invite Submissions for their Contributed Papers Session at the SLA Annual Conference, June 2007, Denver, CO, USA

THEME: Responding to the New in Sci-Tech and Engineering Libraries

Change is a constant in libraries and information centers and all indications are for more and bigger changes in the future. We are looking for papers that explore how you are informing, instructing, managing, providing, evaluating, or creating the modern information environments for your users with change in mind. Consider how you take advantage of new situations and changes that are coming to provide change leadership in your organization. Theoretical and practical approaches are welcome.

Possible questions include, but are not limited to:

- Has collaboration between corporate executives and librarians been increasing? Are external forces a large factor in what is driving change in your library?
- Are you working with faculty to incorporate more curriculum-based library instruction in your strategy?
- Do you spend more time evaluating existing services and using that data to develop new services?
- If fewer users are coming to our information centers or libraries to use traditional print resources how are we providing help in using the resources that they want?
- Is your website the most useful tool in providing services to your users? Are the Googles and MySpaces of the world forcing us to develop services that are more intuitive and offer better results?
- How are you going about increasing awareness and generating advocacy for the value of the library?

ELIGIBILITY: Any SLA member is welcome to submit an abstract for consideration. Preference will be given to members of the Science & Technology Division and the Engineering Division.

CRITERIA: Criteria for review will include relevance to the session theme and evidence of scholarship and methodology.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF ABSTRACTS: October 31, 2006.

ABSTRACT: A 300-500 word abstract should accurately convey the subject of the paper, its scope, conclusions, and relevance to the program theme.

PAPERS: If chosen, acceptance of your paper reflects a commitment on your part to:

- 1) submit the complete text of your paper to the program convener by March 30, 2007.
- 2) give a presentation of your paper for no longer than 20 minutes at the SLA annual conference June 3-6, 2007 in Denver, Colorado.
- 3) allow your paper to be posted on the Sci-Tech Division website (<http://www.sla.org/division/dst/>) and/or printed in the session preprints

SUBMIT ABSTRACTS/QUESTIONS TO:

Roger Beckman
beckmanr@indiana.edu
(e-mail submissions preferred)
Life Sciences Library and Chemistry Library
Indiana University
Jordan Hall A304
1001 E. Third St.
Bloomington, IN 47405-3700
Phone: (812) 855-9792 Fax: (812) 855-6612

Comments from former presenters:

"It wasn't as hard as I thought it would be."

"My presentation was a big help in getting tenure."

"I met some great people doing this the year I gave a paper."

"Being on the panel with Eugene Garfield was tops!"

The Science-Technology Division Welcomes Our New Members

Dennis Bowyer
Pratt & Whitney Rocketdyne
Canoga, CA

Jane Kinkus
Purdue University
W Lafayette, IN

Robert McFarland
Washington University
St. Louis, MO

Stewart Curry
Michelin Americas R&D Corp.
Greenville, SC

Mindy Klein
ExxonMobil Upstream
Research Co
Houston, TX

Robert Stewart
Thomson Scientific
Philadelphia, PA

Jack Hurd
Wachovia Securities
Charlotte, NC

April Love
University of Utah
Salt Lake City, UT

Jamie Zingaro
W L Gore & Assoc Inc
Newark, DE

Vani Inampudi
University of California, San
Diego
LaJolla, CA



2006 Science-Technology Division Award Winners

On behalf of the Science-Technology Division Awards Committee, I am very pleased to announce the following winners of our 2006 Awards.

The 2006 S. Kirk Cabeen Travel Stipend was awarded to Sara Russell Gonzalez. Sara is an Assistant University Librarian at the Marston Science Library, University of Florida -Gainesville. She received her M.L.I.S. from Florida State University in 2005, her B.S. in Geophysics from the California Institute of Technology in 1996 and her Ph.D. in Seismology/Geophysics from the University of California, Santa Cruz in 2001. Baltimore was her first SLA conference which she found very constructive and fun. Her winning essay, which follows, is entitled "In With the New While Keeping the Old".



Cheryl Hansen (right) presents Sara Russell Gonzalez (left) with her award.

The 2006 Bonnie Hilditch International Science-Technology Division Librarian Award was presented to Pradnya Yogesh, who is with Kanbay Software India Pvt. Ltd. in Pune, India. She is the Assistant Manager (Global Librarian)

for Kanbay. Pradyna received her M.L.I.S in 1993, her Bachelor's in Library Science in 1988 and a B.S. degree in 1986. She is active in the SLA Asian Chapter and was the winner of the 2003 SLA Diversity Leadership Development Award.



Cheryl Hansen (right) presents Pradnya Yogesh (left) with her award.

Sara and Pradyna received their awards at the Sci-Tech Division's Annual Meeting/Breakfast, June 12th in Baltimore.

The third award sponsored by the Division is the Sci-Tech Achievement Award. This was not awarded this year due to the lack of nominations.

The 2006 awards committee did a great job this year. My thanks go to members Patricia Losi, Eleanor MacLean, Kim Prater, Susan Smith, Christine Whitaker and Widharto.❖

Cheryl Hansen
Awards Committee Chair

In With the New While Keeping the Old

By Sara Russell Gonzalez,

Winner, 2006 S. Kirk Cabeen Travel Stipend Award

Libraries are under tremendous pressure to adopt the newest technologies, potentially rendering old resources and services obsolete. With the increase in electronic resources and technology, the entire library landscape is undergoing an extreme alteration. While some may predict the demise of the traditional library, I believe the library is defined by its core values rather than its physical manifestation or contents. This mission includes a commitment to providing information to patrons with a focus on customer service and ethics. The challenge is to retain and ensure these values while enhancing services to patrons.

I believe that new technology and forms of communication can supplement and improve our efforts to assist and reach our patrons. Many publishers are now providing electronic resources and to many this represents a radical paradigm shift. Some book lovers may decry the loss of paper; however electronic books and journals offer unique advantages to patrons. They are often accessible by multiple users, can be used remotely, and conserve paper and shelf space. The electronic format also enables visually and hearing-impaired patrons to more easily utilize the resource, expanding the base of potential users.

Along with the increase in content in electronic format, there is now a multitude of electronic databases to meet patron needs across a diversity of disciplines. These databases contain articles, reviews, images, and videos that open a world of information to patrons. Even more important is the overwhelming availability of online public catalogs that facilitate the complex search strategies necessary as collections increase in

size. These catalogs are being merged into online union catalogs, such as OCLC's WorldCat, that allow patrons to discover the location of material anywhere in the world. When these databases are joined with an interlibrary loan service, the effect is to turn the library into a global collection.

As the traditional library transforms into a virtual one, effectual communication to patrons becomes a key challenge. New technologies such as syndicated blogs, wikis, email newsletters, multimedia websites, and podcasts allow librarians a forum to quickly communicate events and new resources to patrons. These media often require training and a willingness to embrace new ideas, but can reap rich public relation dividends for libraries eager to undertake the challenge. An additional requisite is that librarians must provide sufficient content to warrant use of the chosen media. Technology should not be utilized simply because it is novel or cutting edge.

Of course, adoption of technologies, by itself, does not ensure improvement in service to patrons. Information professionals need to evaluate new technology in light of their library's mission and values. Privacy concerns will always be an important issue as will copyright and archival considerations. User needs and their information literacy skills must also be recognized to smoothly transition patrons to new technology. With an open attitude to new ways of providing and managing information while keeping firm to traditional library values, information professionals can ensure a dynamic and relevant future for libraries.❖

Science-Technology Governing Document Now Available

The new Governing Document for the Science-Technology Division, which replaced the old Bylaws, was approved at the Annual Business Meeting in June and has been posted on our web site. You can view the document at:

<http://units.sla.org/division/dst/Governing%20Documents/GoverningDocuments.html> The Governing Document functions as the official rules of our Division and should be referred to in any communications or business by that name, not as "bylaws."

Thanks to all Sci-Tech members who reviewed and commented on the document and to our chair, Mary-Francis Lembo, for shepherding the Governing Document through the voting process at the Annual Business Meeting.

Darra Balance, Past Chair, Science-Technology Division, dballance@mcg.edu