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2010 Sci-Tech Division Awards

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The Sci-Tech Division was pleased to present the following awards, longevity achievements and retirees during the Sci-Tech Division Business Meeting and Awards Breakfast on June 15, 2010 in New Orleans, LA.

2010 Science-Technology Division Achievement Award

Praveen Kumar (P.K.) Jain is the winner of the 2010 Science-Technology Division Achievement Award. The Sci-Tech Achievement Award is the highest award presented by the Sci-Tech Division and is reserved for those recipients whose professional work is marked by distinction and dedication to scientific and technical librarianship. The $750 award is presented to recognize those Division members who have made outstanding contributions to the Division and/or to the literature of science and technology librarianship in the past one to five years. P.K. has 25 years of vast experience in the field of Library and Information Science. He holds master’s degrees in Economics, Sociology, and Library Information Systems. Currently he is pursuing a Ph.D. in Library and Information Science from University of Delhi, Delhi, India. At present, he serves as Librarian at the Institute of Economic Growth, University of Delhi Enclave, Delhi, India. He has authored more than 15 papers, presented at national and international conferences, and edited one book. His paper entitled “Digital Libraries Initiatives in India” got 6th rank in the international paper contest organized by ASIS&T.

P.K. has held many roles in SLA including Past President of the Asian Chapter of SLA as well as Membership Chair and Awards Chair of the Asian Chapter. He has received several awards for his service in SLA including the SLA Presidential Citation 2009, Science-Technology and Engineering Divisions 2009 Bonnie Hilditch International Librarian Award, SLA 2008 Professional Award, and the 2004 Diversity Leadership Development Award. P.K. is one of the most proactive members of the SLA Asian Chapter. He has been an advocate for SLA in the Asian Region by promoting the benefits of membership in SLA at many conferences in South Asia. P.K. has initiated several activities to increase membership in his region. During his time as Membership Chair of the Asian Chapter, he increased its membership from 70 members in November 2008 to 225 members in November 2009. The Asian Chapter has been recognized as the “fastest growing Chapter” and now comes within the top 15 chapters of SLA. India ranks as number 4 in membership after USA, Canada and the U.K.

2010 S. Kirk Cabeen Travel Stipend Award

Sara Samuel is the winner of the 2010 S. Kirk Cabeen Travel Stipend Award. The S. Kirk Cabeen Travel Stipend Award is a $750 award offered to a library school student or first time conference attendee and is to be used toward the expense of attending the Special Libraries Association Annual Conference. Sara acquired her current position as Assistant Engineering Librarian at the Art, Architecture and Engineering Library, University of Michigan at Ann Arbor in July 2009, only two months after she graduated from the University of Michigan School of Information. Her degree title is “Master of Science in Information” with a tailored specialization emphasis in Library and Information Science, Archives and Records Management, and Preservation of Information. Her current work experiences include: conducting in-person, phone, chat, and e-mail reference; serving as liaison with the Civil & Environmental Engineering Department and the Atmospheric, Oceanic, & Space Sciences Department to provide instruction and research assistance; performing
Collection Development for these departments; and participating on four committees.

Sara also has a Bachelor of Arts in Computer Science Communication from Hope College in Holland, Michigan. While attending Hope College, Sara worked as a Computer Assistant and one of her charges was to maintain their entire library website.

Sara’s supervisor wrote of her contributions: “I have known Ms. Henry since August of 2007 when she was a University Library Assistant at the Art, Architecture and Engineering Library, University of Michigan. We were fortunate to hire her as an assistant engineering librarian after she graduated in July 2009 … As a new librarian, Sara is taking an active role and contributing innovative ideas to various assignments. I just received a report from the chair of a committee she served on, who wrote, ‘Sara showed strong initiative by leading the Working Group toward using Qualtrics for the user survey. Learning the tool, designing the survey, and preparing reports based on the data and for her work in analyzing the data went well above the call of duty.’ This was a group of many seasoned librarians and to hear she could convince them all is a great achievement.”

2010 Science-Technology and Engineering Divisions
Bonnie Hilditch
International Librarian Award

Shantanu Ganguly is the winner of the 2010 Science-Technology and Engineering Divisions Bonnie Hilditch International Librarian Award.

Shantanu has a Master of Science in Ecology and Environment and a master’s degree in Library and Information Science (MLIS) from Indira Gandhi National Open University. He has also completed his Post Graduate Diploma in Management and Post Graduate Diploma in Computer Applications (PGDCA) from the Institute of Electronics and Telecommunications Engineers (IETE). Shantanu has worked in leading scientific and technological organizations like the Voluntary Health Association of India (VHAI) as Library Program Officer, leading not-for-profit organizations and health institutions in India focused on public health policy. During his tenure at VHAI, he set up six resource centers in several states and in remote corners of India. He worked as a Librarian in the National Productivity Council (NPC)—a leading engineering industry consulting organization in India. He joined The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) in New Delhi as a Librarian and was then promoted to Information Analyst in their Library and Information Centre in 2007. TERI is one of the leading organizations in Asia working for the betterment of society in the fields of energy, environment, biotechnology and sustainable development. Currently, Shantanu is working as a Fellow in TERI, and some of his major achievements include: revamping and development of their Environmental Information System Website to make it more content-rich; content development of Specialized Library on Climate Change; editing the eNewsletter on Renewable Energy and Environment; and working as project coordinator of database development of R & D Projects sponsored by the Ministry of Science and Technology.

Shantanu has presented papers at several seminars and conferences, and published approximately 20 papers in national and international journals. He has written chapters in several books on rising topics of library and information science including digital library services. He has taught workshops and training programs and can speak three languages fluently. Shantanu is committed to the development of library and information professionals and is interested in engaging in outreach activities for the Sci-Tech Division and SLA in the Indian sub-continent.
Molly Tebo is the winner of our 2010 Sci-Tech Division and Australia-New Zealand Student Award. This award of US$2,300 is presented to an LIS student currently enrolled in an Australian or New Zealand library program with a focus on working in a science/technology library. The award is to be used towards a travel stipend and conference registration for the SLA Annual Conference. Molly is currently enrolled in the Graduate Diploma/Master’s in Information Studies and Librarianship program at Curtin University. She has a bachelor’s degree in Biology/Computer Science with Honors in Molecular Biology. She is currently working at the Curtin University Library as an Assistant Librarian. In this position, Molly performs a wide range of librarian responsibilities including circulation and responding to general inquiries, instructing patrons on how to utilize their library’s self checkout equipment, and processing books for labeling and binding.

From 2002-2004, Molly worked at the Molecular Cardiology Lab, Centenary Institute as a Research Assistant. Her duties in this position included creating and maintaining a custom patient database, discovering a number of novel human mutations that were subsequently published in reputable scientific journals, presenting her findings as seminars and written documents, and assisting in the training and overseeing of honors students. From 2008-2009, Molly worked at iiNet Limited as a Training Officer and from 2004-2007, she worked at Lush Cosmetics Australasia as the Training Manager for Australia and New Zealand. Both of these positions enabled Molly to use her instruction skills and capabilities to create training courses and sessions that were applicable for use in several different countries. She served as conference planner as well as collaborator and consultant for these courses, participating in and assessing the outcome of the training programs.

One of Molly’s professors stated in his letter of recommendation: “I have had the great pleasure of teaching Molly as part of her Graduate Diploma in Information and Library Studies at Curtin University of Technology. She is an extremely capable, organized and diligent student who has achieved excellent results in her completed units. Molly has impressed staff and fellow students with her commitment to the development of her knowledge and professionalism.”

This year’s Impossible Award is presented to James Manasco. The Impossible Award is awarded by the Division Chair at the Annual Business Meeting to recognize work by a member that made the impossible, possible. James led the SciTech News to its current online format using the Jefferson Digital Commons BePress platform, while also being recognized as a member of the prestigious SLA Fellows class of 2010 and chairing the SLA Conference Advisory Council for 2010 and running for Chapter Cabinet Chair-Elect for 2011. James’ additional contributions and honors are as follows: Sci-Tech Division Chair (2003-04), IT Division Chair (2008), SciTech News Editor-in-Chief (2009-present), SLA-wide 2010 Annual Conference Advisory Council Chair, numerous awards from the Kentucky Chapter of SLA, President of the
Kentucky Chapter (2003-04), Editor of the Kentucky Chapter Bulletin (2000-01), and famous co-presenter for the much-admired Science & Engineering Resources 101 conference session series. His illustrious (and much more extensive) portfolio of contributions both within SLA and at his home institution is truly impressive.

2010 Special Appreciation Award

This year’s Special Appreciation Award is presented to two Sci-Tech Division Committees: the Professional Development Committee and the Vendor Relations Committee. The Special Appreciation Award is awarded by the Division Chair for outstanding work by a member for the Division.

Led by Susan Shepherd, the 2010 Professional Development Committee includes Tony Aponte, Lorrie Pellack, and Stephanie Publicker. The Professional Development Committee has successfully launched new initiatives to develop and conduct webinar training opportunities for the division and beyond. With two webinars behind them - “TOXNET® and Beyond: Using the National Library of Medicine’s Environmental Health and Toxicology Portal” and “Twitter for Special Libraries” - this team has been innovative, resourceful and has furthered the mission of the division to “provide access to information about the continuing development of new technologies as they apply to libraries and information centers, not only in science and technology but in all areas served by the Association, and to provide its members the technical information and skills they will need to function in the 21st century.”

2010 Longevity and Retirees Recognition

Several Sci-Tech Division members achieved a significant milestone in membership. The following individuals were recognized with special certificates during the Sci-Tech Division Business Meeting and Awards Breakfast.

40 – 60 Years: Mary Dailey (60 years), Dr. Robert Ballard (43 years), Jim Arshem (40 years)

35 Years: Barbara Arnold, Marianne Cyr, John Piety, Linda Smith, Dorothy Ward
30 Years: Dona Dirlam, Carol Hutchins, Kathy Nordhaus, Cynthia Ortiz, Susan Shepherd, Susan Snyder

25 Years: Vivian Carlson, Margaret Deeds, Nancy Lee, Susan Mast, Erika Mittag, Roger Sherman, Anne Turhollow, Nancy Wilmes

The Sci-Tech Division also recognized two retirees this year with certificates:

Wei Wei - retired July 2009 after working for the University of California, Santa Cruz for 21 years.

Irene Laursen - retired June 30, 2009 from Wellesley College after 35 years as a science librarian.