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SLA 2007 Annual Conference Session Reports

2007 Annual Conference Session Reports

Chemistry for the Non-Chemist Librarian, CE Course

Saturday, June 2, 2007
Presented by: Chemistry Division
Instructors: Bartow Culp, Chemistry Librarian at Purdue University and Judith Currano, Chemistry Librarian at the University of Pennsylvania
Reported by: Donna Beck, Carnegie Mellon University, donnab@andrew.cmu.edu

Bartow Culp, Chemistry Librarian at Purdue University and Judith Currano, Chemistry Librarian at the University of Pennsylvania, instructors for this all day session, both exuded enthusiasm and knowledge of the subject. Bartow quipped, when introducing his interest in chemistry, "Molecules don't die when trying to do experiments on them...like fruit flies." He also exclaimed that people say that they want organic foods because they have no chemicals in them—"Well, *that's* what they're made of!"

Almost twenty-five years have passed since I had taken any formal chemistry so I was tentative about even a one day session. In fact, I thought that I should walk right out when I saw the piles of materials for us on the back table. These included: *Access to Chemistry* by Alan Jones, et al., Royal Society of Chemistry ©1999 and *Stereochemistry* by David G. Morris, Royal Society of Chemistry © 2001; as well as, a Molecular Visions ™ Organic Model Kit for each of us.

However, our instructors quickly created a comfortable, albeit fast-paced, environment for us eight participants. Their goal was to make us feel comfortable when researchers and scientists approach us with chemistry questions. One participant revealed that she had an interest in better understanding the chemistry questions that she is asked, rather than just feeling like a "document delivery" service. Another participant had a desire to "think in structures rather than words." I was most interested in "Methods of converting chemical questions into questions that reference sources can handle," one of the course objectives. I hoped to apply this type of knowledge when using SciFinder Scholar to search Chemical Abstracts. For instance, I learned that a structural formula is not good to use for information retrieval. Some compounds can be represented by different structural formulas but have the same molecular formula.

Our class had hands-on practice writing both structural and molecular formulae, including writing formulae in Hill order: carbon atoms are indicated first, hydrogen is next, then, all others follow alphabetically. We also learned to use our molecule kits—black balls representing carbon and red balls representing oxygen, keeping in mind that the carbon atom can form four bonds only. If only chemistry was presented to me in this manner back in my college years, I could have had a degree in chemistry today!

I was impressed with the use of slides for providing us an overview, describing chemistry as the "central science." The slides consisted of clear definitions. Analogies were also effectively used, for example the description for CAS Registry Numbers as being "like a Social Security number for a molecule."

Like the alchemists of old who did not want to give away any of their secrets, I do not want to "give away" the entire content of the course, but I do want to mention a few points from some of the topics that were covered. We had a lesson in one of the "tools of the trade"—the periodic table—arrangement of the elements by their properties. Here is a useful link from the Royal Society of Chemistry that was provided to us for the "Visual Elements Periodic Table": http://www.chemsoc.org/viselements/pages/periodic_table.html.

We spent a fair amount of time learning about the various ways to identify compounds and about nomenclatures. Organic nomenclature

was introduced to us by the statement, "Organic chemistry is the chemistry of carbon and 'friends.'" We also had a hands-on activity to practice creating a structure for a compound by breaking down the chemical name. To study the structure of molecules three-dimensionally, in the stereochemistry part of the class, Judith led us to grasp the meaning of the chirality of a molecule by helping us to determine the chirality of common household objects.

In the physical chemistry section, we heard the common paraphrase about the Laws of Thermodynamics: 1st law: You can't win—if you use energy, you won't get it back; you can't create energy. 2nd law: You can't even break even! Biological chemistry and inorganic chemistry were touched on towards the end of our session, along with an introduction to spectroscopy and discussion of common spectroscopic techniques. We were reminded about the NIST Chemistry Web Book, amongst others, as a useful resource: http://webbook.nist.gov/chemistry/

This session left me with greater confidence to support our faculty and staff, especially the Chemical Engineering department to which I do liaison work. I encourage other science librarians and information professionals to take this course the next time around. I leave you with this question: What two elements are named after women?

Chemistry Division Academic Roundtable Breakfast

Monday, June 4, 2007
Presented by: Chemistry Division
Sponsored by: ACS Publications
Moderators: Brian Winterman, Indiana University and Janette Carver, University of Kentucky
Speaker: Dana Roth, California Institute of Technology
Reported by: Sue Cardinal, University of Rochester, scardinal@library.rochester.edu

Dana Roth shared his thoughts about the open access movement and the Federal Research Public Access Act (http://www.taxpayeraccess.org/frpaa/index.html). His main concern is that the FRPAA bill would jeopardize the value provided by scholarly publishers. Prepublication has not worked in the chemistry field. Articles benefit greatly from copy editing and linking that the publishers provide.

Only the wealthiest can afford access to the expensive commercial journals. Ironically, many less valued papers are published in the most expensive journals. In general, society journals are already reasonably priced and provide high value.

So what is the best way to transition from reader subscriptions to the author-pays model that will not have a devastating effect on scholarly publishers? Maybe the author and the subscriber need to share the cost. Maybe the html should be freely available while the PDF should be subscription.

After Dana's talk we began discussing open access concerns. Brian and Janette kept the discussion on track. Attendees commented on the following topics. Faculty are not embracing open access and author costs. Performance-based publishing is still prominent. It is perceived to be critical for faculty to publish in prestigious journals in the least publishable unit. There is also an underground of sharing and posting articles between faculty. Some librarians, in collaboration with legal staff, are educating new faculty about copyright and copyright retention.

Library budgets are very tight and emphasis is often placed on use. With the current model our budgets may not stretch far enough. With the new model will we pay more for membership fees, author fees and subscription fees? Authors have asked libraries to become members of some societies so that they can get publication discounts. The exchange rate has to be factored in. Overall, we should aim for a sustainable model.

Open access articles are read and cited more now and may readily be data-mined. Publishers aren't always willing to allow this with subscription articles. New projects like Project Prospect (Royal Society of Chemistry) and Scitopia are taking advantage of full text availability. Most people don't use the html versions of articles. Is there any thought of providing links in PDFs? There are a vast number of articles being produced and journals are turning into full text databases.

Standards Update

Monday, June 4, 2007
Presented by: Engineering, Petroleum & Energy Resources, and Science-Technology Divisions
Sponsored by: American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Inc. (IEEE), and Thomson Scientific/Techstreet.
Moderated and Reported by: Lee Pharis, Manager, Information Resources, Exponent, Menlo Park, CA, lpharis@exponent.com.

The Standards Update, formerly the Standards Roundtable, featured nine speakers representing both standards developing organizations (SDOs) and distributors. Following are their updates.

ANSI – Leanne Lowry, Marketing Manager, llowry@ansi.org.
A new web site for ANSI's web store, http://webstore.ansi.org, is planned for launch at the beginning of July 2007. Standards descriptions will include referenced standards and tables of contents, beginning with ISO standards. More descriptive records will be added to the store collection by collection (e.g. IEC, etc.). Standards updates will be more current, uploaded twice daily in 12-hour increments.

Moderator Lee Pharis makes a point at the Standards Update session.

ANSI standards search engine, NSSN, http://www.nssn.org/about.aspx, is being updated additional content in descriptions, including related federal regulations, i.e. which standards apply to which regulations. More international standards are being added, e.g. Austria and Brazil, and ANSI is continuing to work with SDOs to provide more descriptive content for standards. ANSI is not an SDO, but instead accredits SDOs with expertise in particular subject areas to write and maintain technical documents relating to those industries. More information can be found at http://www.ansi.org.

ASME – Phil DiVietro, Managing Director, Publishing, divietrop@asme.org.
The 2007 ASME BPVC (Boiler Pressure Vessel Code) is being released on time. BPVC Section VIII-Div. 2 has been completely rewritten. It updates and modernizes the Code to provide for major technical advances in pressure vessel analysis, design, construction, and related sciences. The new edition is also an attempt to make the Code more user-friendly for both users and committee members. Web site http://www.asme.org.

ASTM – John Pace, VP Publications & Marketing, jpace@astm.org.
New standards are being developed in expanded subject areas, e.g. homeland security, declarable substances in materials, and manufacturing of pharma products. ASTM has a new Digital Library product with more than 500,000 pages of technical papers that either complement ASTM standards or served as the basis for standards development. Previously this information was not available, and is now offered for sale either as individual papers and chapters or subscriptions. Generous discounts are available to the academic community, and new data elements are planned for the Digital Library in the future. Click on the left-hand tab "ASTM Campus" on the ASTM web site for a more in-depth review.

A series of new specialty compilations, available in HTML format with PDF backup, is being developed for ASTM's interactive portal line. This new product uses newly implemented features and functions, allowing users to view referenced documents, linked regulations, full revision history, and applicable historical documents. Users can also annotate their copies of standards. Two completed portals are Environmental Due Diligence and Department of Transportation. Medical devices, petrochemical, and biofuel portals are planned for release this year.

ASTM's approach to digital rights management (DRM) is education, with perceived infractions met with cease-and-desist admonitions. Web site http://www.astm.org.

East View Information Services – Ryan Tauer, Sales Representative, ryan.tauer@eastview.com.
East View provides standards online from Russia (State Standards of the Russian Federation, a.k.a. GOST), the former Soviet Union, and China using secure U.S. servers. Descriptions of the 23,000 Russian standards can be browsed in English. In addition to standards, the company also provides periodicals and books. If English is needed but not in stock, a translation can be obtained. Publications are provided in PDF, FTP, and hard copy. Orders can be placed online or by phone. Web site http://www.eastview.com.

IEEE – Michael Spada, Senior Marketing Manager, m.spada@ieee.org.
IEEE has nearly 1,300 standards. Individual standards or subscriptions are available online. The digital subscriptions have been reformatted from two platforms to one, with all subscriptions now on the IEEE Xplore platform. Standards drafts can be obtained in Xplore, and users can set up alerts. Web site http://www.ieee.org.

IHS – Alison Ruger, Director, Technical Publishing Business Development, Alison.Ruger@ihs.com.
Completing its first full year as a public company, IHS is redeveloping and redesigning its specifications and standards web-based information and delivery system. This year it implemented user studies and learning labs to observe how users utilize the IHS web site and to determine what works, or not, for users. Users can purchase not only single standards or set subscriptions, but also customized collections, and work with IHS on appropriate pricing.

Standards are updated on the web within the hour of receiving them. New products being launched are: Reference Linking, which allows corporations to link seamlessly between corporate documentation and the standards documents they reference; and digital SDO libraries. IHS is working with SDOs to offer academic pricing. In addition to DVD and Internet access, subscription products can be obtained for use behind corporate firewalls - intranets. [Note: the week after the conference it was announced that IHS had purchased Jane's Information Group.] Web site http://www.ihs.com.

SAI Global/ILI Publishing - Anne Scorey, General Manager, Anne.scorey@saiglobal.com.
Rebranding of ILI to SAI Global, its parent company, has occurred over the past year. SAI's core businesses of publishing, compliance, and assurance, offer customers a complete suite of services and the opportunity to cross sell standards between the business divisions. SAI will continue to build a global business by continuing its acquisition strategy. The flagship standards management system, Standards Infobase, will be further enhanced this coming year. The Logicom database version 3 was launched this year. Web site http://www.ili-info.com/us.

NCSCI/NIST – Patricia Harris, Technical Information Specialist, patricia.harris@nist.gov.
A user of standards rather than an SDO or supplier, the National Center for Standards and Certification Information (NCSCI) serves the National Institute for Standards and Technology (NIST) staff. One-fourth of NIST staff are on standards committees and depend upon standards to do their work. NCSCI also serves the Department. of Commerce by fielding standards-related questions from the public, including international requestors.

Pat remarked that "Standards are not bibliographically well-behaved. There are no standards for standards." Revision history showing development progression is lacking on standards. A growing number of SDOs are giving standards away for free, e.g. NFPA for viewing only, although standards typically remain unavailable to the general public. There still is no comprehensive standards information database, leaving a lot of dot-connecting to be done by users. Information about NCSCI and how you can use their service can be found at http://www.nist.gov/ncsci.

Thomson Scientific/Techstreet – Andrew Bank, Director, Business Development, Andrew.Bank@thomson.com.
In business for about 13 years, Techstreet is a business unit of Thomson Scientific and aggregates standards from about 350 SDOs worldwide in either print or PDF. DRM technology is used on standards when mandated by publishers, although Techstreet does offer a patent-pending way to unlock a PDF to forward it to the user from the intermediary (this also disables the document on the original computer). A free tracking service for updates is offered, as well as a points-reward system for online ordering.

Their web-based subscription for enterprise

access uses the Web 2.0 platform. This is very fast, enabling collaboration among end-users, users can be located anywhere, and there is no extra cost for adding additional locations. The access model is based on simultaneous users. Subscriptions are customizable and there are six different real-time usage reports.

Techstreet has the entire collection of MIL specs in electronic and paper formats. It has recently completed an agreement with IEC to provide IEC standards subscriptions worldwide; previously the agreement was restricted to U.S. and to individual documents only. The ASME BPVC subscription service has been enhanced with links from section to section and redlining may be a feature in the future in the online subscription.
Web site http://www.techstreet.com/.

During the Q&A part of the session a caution was issued to those who use the Copyright Clearance Center (CCC) because the information pertaining to standards copyright coverage on the CCC web site is not always consistent with the SDOs.

Several people were less than satisfied about the manner in which SAE handles DRM with its publications.

It was pointed out that some members of the Software and Information Industry Association (SIIA) are trying out software embedded in publications that, instead of locking a publication, monitors how often it is printed, forwarded, or otherwise used, moving toward policing rather than protecting.

Thank you to our presenters for joining us and for supporting SLA, and thank you to my colleagues Jeanie Fraser at Allergan and Sara Davis at Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc. for assisting me at the meeting.

Feeding the Fledgling Repository

Monday, June 4, 2007
Presented by: Science-Technology Division
Sponsored by: Elsevier
Speaker: Ann Koopman, Jefferson University
Reported by: Lisa Johnston, Indiana University, ljohnsto@indiana.edu

In recent years the institutional repository has become a valuable tool in the tech-savvy librarian's toolkit to help us reach out to faculty, promote open-access publication, and archive a wealth of scholarly and intellectual knowledge into the public record. However, the capacity to offer such a service is not always enough, as Ann Koopman (Jefferson University) presented in Feeding the Fledgling Repository. Luckily, Koopman provided a few simple tricks that can really pay off.

The session was delivered in two parts: the first half was a traditional lecture in which Koopman, Jefferson Digital Commons Director, presented the issues involved with establishing an institutional repository, along with a number of promotional strategies to help the project succeed. The second half of the program was devoted to a lively "roundtable" discussion of issues and problems encountered by the attendees. Most often cited were copyright issues. Knowing and understanding the laws will help the repository librarian better serve their users and answer the difficult questions along the way.

Promotion

Digital repositories have many benefits for special libraries. They are a home for dissertations, historical collections, research papers (including supplemental material such as graphs and data), teaching tools, company documents (such as meeting minutes or memos), special event materials (like podcasts, video, or posters), faculty publications (pre-prints and post-prints), and they can even serve as a venue for researchers to set up and manage a peer-reviewed electronic journal.

Once a library has established a digital repository, similar problems will surface regardless of the choice of software utilized: the capacity is generally greater than the demand. Koopman discussed the issue of recruitment and solicitation for submissions and reasoned that faculty have unique and well-established habits. Therefore we need to help them understand why they will benefit from change. A big selling point is that such a service will maximize their work by reaching new audiences and appearing in search engines like Google.

Following this logic, sometimes obtaining faculty and researcher support is a simple problem of discourse. Koopman reminded the audience that a slight change in language will go a long way with our faculty and researchers. Rather than "archival preservation," stress "getting cited"; don't use "promotion of university," but

"professional visibility"; why not instead of "open access" say, "discoverability." Overall, speak in terms that they understand and can respond to.

Finally, more often than not, the existence of an institutional repository is simply unknown by its potential users. To get the word out at Jefferson University, Koopman created a promotional handout that guides new users through the benefits of contribution. The repository itself can be a great promotional tool, with an interactive home page that includes a "Featured Author" area or by the transformation of your repository into an online journal or departmental newsletter. Good places to start your outreach efforts include: departmental meetings, invitation programs, receptions, new faculty and graduate student orientation, and subject liaisons. Koopman also emphasizes web editors and administrators as key partners in building your institution's repository.

Expectations

Promotion is just half the battle; there is also an important need to establish expectations. A successful institutional repository is brought about by a librarian who takes the following steps:

First, measure your progress. How many items are you holding? Who is participating? What audiences are you reaching and how many successful downloads has your repository delivered? Use this information first as a starting point and build from there. Eventually, depositing work and research into the institutional repository will become an integrated part of the process, not a supplementary effort.

Second, faculty sometimes wonder about whether it makes sense to deposit their articles in more than one repository, such as the National Institutes of Health PubMed Central service and a local university repository. Jefferson has found it effective to support multiple deposits, using the argument that "lots of copies keep stuff safe," along with selling local deposit as a way of showcasing personal or departmental achievement.

Third, pace yourself and use discretion. Koopman referred to Feeding the Fledgling Repository as "collection development with a twist." This type of project requires the personal touch and a proactive attitude. So "go out there and get their stuff," but use editorial control over the content, resolve copyright issues, such as prior publication rights, and work with departments to help provide quality checks on unpublished and student work.

Koopman closed her presentation with the parting advice: pace yourself. The successful project may soon demand additional staffing requirements, time constraints, and an unknown amount of material, so build slowly and build partnerships.

Chemistry Division Vendor Roundtable

Monday, June 4, 2007
Presented by: Chemistry Division
Moderated and Reported by: Dana Roth, CalTech, dzrlib@library.caltech.edu

For postings of the Power Point/PDF presentations summarized below see: http://units.sla.org/division/dche/2007/schedule.htm#vendor

This annual session featured presentations on new developments and soon to be released products from the following vendors.

Royal Society of Chemistry (RSC) - "Adding value to content; Enhanced HTML".

As an introduction to the RSC's new Project Prospect, Phil Abrahams contrasted their investment in HTML (CrossRef linking, etc.) with their readers preference for PDF (use at RSC ~80% PDF vs ~20% HTML)

Project Prospect enhances the HTML version with semi-automated text mining, e.g., links from terms to IUPAC Compendium of Chemical Terminology, aka The Gold Book; links from compound names to synonyms; Smiles InChI strings; CML (Chemical Markup Language) representation and 2D structure representations; and links to the AmigoGo Gene Ontology and QuickGo websites. See: Org. Biomol. Chem., 2007, 5, 636-643 DOI: 10.1039/b616494c

Bio-Rad - "KnowItAll U"

Leo Collins discussed Bio-Rad's KnowItAll U, which provides campus-wide access to over 1.3 million IR, NMR, MS, Raman, UV-Vis, and Near IR.

The annual site license includes: Bio-Rad Sadtler spectra, John Wiley & Sons spectra and the Wolfgang Robien spectra collection. The

KnowItAll Informatics System (Windows Client) includes structure drawing, reporting, processing, searching, data mining, chemometrics, NMR Prediction, and other analysis tools.

A new feature is the SpectraBase Community Database, a multi-technique reference spectral database created by designated members of the community, which allows optional addition of your own reference spectra and peer review.

Elsevier - "Scopus"
Ed Hueckel gave a quick overview of Scopus, abstracts and references from over 16,000 titles and 4000 different publishers which include 'cited by' references from articles, web pages and patents. He then discussed some special features: H-Index (similar to ISI but only from 1996+) and Chemical Structure Summaries (i.e. subscriber links to Beilstein for compounds and reactions, from 500 journals, as well as links from compounds back to Scopus). Scopus is integrated with Scirus for patent and web information.

Thompson Scientific - "Derwent"
Don Walter provided a reminder of the Derwent Patent Index enhancements both at the Invention Level, traditional DWPISM content such as patent family, value-add title, abstract and indexing, as well as the Member Patent Level, new additional data from each member (publication) listed in the invention (patent family) part of the record.

Enhancements for PatentWeb® & Aureka® include: Expanded patent coverage in existing authorities; more post-issuance information; number and assignee name normalization; consistent format for all IPC codes; improved indexing; and more stable Inpadoc families.

Thomson Pharma enhancements include: homepage redesign and modifications; new target index (split into protein and gene targets); email alerts, personalization; and exporting

American Chemical Society - "ACS Publications: Responding to Our Customers"
Matt Price focused on long-term preservation and archiving. ACS participates in both Portico and CLOCKSS. 2008 pricing will be decoupled from historical print expenditure (tier-based pricing for Web Edition access).* He also described the market share, high impact and high value of ACS journals. The journals recorded more than 33% of all citations in the 7 core chemistry categories in ISI Journal Citation Reports. The median ISI Impact Factor for ACS journals is nearly twice that of its nearest commercial competitor.
*http://pubs.acs.org/valuebasedpricing/index.html

Chemical Abstract Service - "What's New at CAS"
Christina Tomeo discussed CAS database enhancements, especially the new pre-1907 content, expansion of the PREP role to pre-1967 content, and the new 'Restricted Chemical List(RSTR)' search and display field now available in CHEMLIST. STN enhancements include various files and extended logoff hold. SciFinder/SciFinder Scholar features now include combining answer sets, new training resources, saving answers, and categorizing results. Coming STN Attractions include viewer, multicolor highlighting, notes option, AnaVist version 2.0, and no-cost teaching options.

The Science of Beer

Monday, June 4, 2007
Presented by: Science-Technology, Chemistry, and Food, Agriculture & Nutrition Divisions
Sponsored by: ACS Publications, Annual Reviews, CAS, Elsevier, Royal Society of Chemistry
Moderator: James Manasco, University of Louisville
Reported by: Nevenka Zdravkovska, University of Maryland, College Park, MD, nevenka@umd.edu

Professor Charlie Bamforth, Chairman of the Department of Food Science and Technology at UC Davis, and an Anheuser-Busch endowed professor, talked about the way beer is made. According to Bamforth, author of several books on beer (*Essays in Brewing Science* - 2006, *Beer: Health and Nutrition* - 2004, *Beer: Tap Into the Art and Science of Brewing* - 2003, *Brewing Yeast Fermentation Performance* – 2002) beer is as healthy—if not more healthy—than wine. Beer contains several types of vitamin B, especially folic acid, certain useful minerals, and fiber. Beer is the world's oldest and favorite alcoholic beverage. In ancient times beer was used as mouthwash, an enema, and as a wound healer. Today, the United States is the second largest beer producer, after China. Yet, the Czechs drink

the most, 158 liters per capita; whereas in the United States the consumption is 82 liters per capita.

Before his work in academia, Bamforth was prominent in the brewing industry in England. He worked for the Brewing Research Foundation and for *Bass Brewer*, as Research Manager and Quality Assurance Manager.

Bamforth's presentation was very entertaining, light on chemical formulas and heavy on information. Through colorful charts, tables, and images, and with great admiration for "the golden nectar," he presented the tedious process of producing the world's favorite beverage. From his presentation, we learned that:

- Beer is made of four main ingredients: water, a starch source – usually malted barley, yeast, and flavoring – usually hops.
- The soul of the beer is the barley.
- Bass holds the oldest trademark.
- In Manet's masterpiece, *A bar at the Folies-Bergère* (1881/1882), Bass Ale is depicted among other drinks.
- The nicest brewery, according to Bamforth, is the Sierra Nevada Brewery in Chico, California.
- Many phrases in use today come from the beer industry, for example: *rule of thumb*. Before the thermometer was invented, the thumb was used to ensure the boiled wort was not too hot to accommodate the yeast.

Bamforth made multiple references to wine, always concluding that beer is superior: for example, wine comes in three versions (white, red, and pink); beer has many more varieties.

Dr. Charles Bamforth, Anheuser-Busch Endowed Professor of Brewing Science at University of California, Davis. Photograph by Cody Hanson, technology librarian at the University of Minnesota.

Collection Development in the Electronic Age

Tuesday, June 5, 2007
Presented by: Chemistry Division
Sponsored by: ACS Publications
Moderator: Robert Buchanan, Auburn University
Reported by: Michael Peper, University of North Carolina, peper@email.unc.edu

This session was very well attended. The speakers were a well-balanced group of electronic resource enthusiasts and print loyalists all hailing from unique types of institutions.

"The Life Cycle of Digital Reference Resources: Asking the Right Questions" presented by Dr. Lesley Farmer

Dr. Farmer, from UC-Long Beach, began the session by laying out all the issues and considerations that we are now dealing with relating to electronic resources. She noted that most of the key issues to consider when selecting electronic resources are not concerned with the content, but instead revolve around the technological, legal and financial resources

available to the institution. For example, she suggested that any interface be tested with all (especially the oldest) machines and software to ensure that all users will have an equal quality experience with the product.

Another key issue surrounds the demands placed upon each user who want to use a given product. Will users be required to download plug-ins? Is it accessible to users with special needs? And, can users do all that they need with the materials provided, such as downloading, printing, saving and viewing?

Instead of providing all the answers, this presentation encouraged librarians to constantly consider the important aspects of collection development (CD) decisions and to ensure that they attend to all relevant details. Some of these can be small, but all have big consequences for our users.

"Electronic Science Resources at the University of Auckland Library: The Impact on Collection Development and Service Delivery", presented by Sonya L. Donoghue

Setting the scene, Ms. Donoghue described her institution, the University of Auckland, as a large university with over 38,000 students and a significant amount of electronic resources. She emphasized the importance of creating documentation for all CD decisions through established and explicit policies. While e-resources can solve the problem of space for many institutions, they create their own host of challenges as well. In many ways, the challenge changes from providing objects and making them accessible in a physical space to providing delivery of a service.

She demonstrated how quickly her institution has adopted these new services. In the past 8 years, the number of e-journals in their collection has increased 20 times and the number of e-books has increased 1000 times! Users have certainly followed and accelerated this trend and there is now an expectation that resources will be available and that full-text will be available from any computer.

"Til Death Do Us Part: Linda Hall Library's Commitment to Print in the Electronic Age" presented by Michelle A. Lahey)

This presentation came as a bit of a shock to many of the attendees and certainly was unique for this session. Ms. Lahey set herself apart not only with the content of her talk, but by the fact that she eschewed the customary PowerPoint presentation as well (is that legal?). She presented the perspective of the Linda Hall Library in Kansas City, whose commitment to print resources provided a contrast to the other presenters and to most of those in attendance.

Linda Hall is a unique sort of public library. It is not publicly funded like a typical public library. It has continued as a print archive for scientific literature at a time when most libraries, especially science libraries, are shedding their print collections to save space and to meet users' information-seeking behavior. The Library has added an additional 30,000 square feet to its facility, which it anticipates will allow for 50 years of growth. In addition, it is actively pursuing the discarded print collections of other institutions to make its own print collection even more comprehensive.

Linda Hall Library feels that this role is essential because of the enduring need for print materials. Ms. Lahey pointed to the increased restrictiveness of licenses for electronic resources and the benefit of serendipitous discovery that is more common with print materials than with electronic resources. While most libraries rush to clear their shelves of their print materials, Linda Hall Library provides an important alternative model for collection development.

"Journey into the Digital Age: Strategies for Developing and Managing Collections in a Federal Research Library" presented by Susan Makar

NIST's Information Services Division (ISD), in contrast, is moving towards a model of electronic-only resources. They plan to begin by replacing missing items with e-books, focusing on materials in the IT sector, and related to the research priorities at NIST. They are also undertaking a series of pilot feasibility projects for certain methods of electronic resource collection.

The ISD is also interested in creating a better model for electronic resource collections. They have formulated a collection development policy for their electronic collection and have taken pains to create standards for their collection. They are being careful to ensure perpetual access to all their materials through

licensing agreements with publishers, as well as partnering with independent organizations like Portico and LOCKSS.

The ISD has also implemented an extensive system for evaluation of their resources. Collection decisions are based upon usage statistics, impact factors, customer feedback, focus groups, lab liaisons and analysis of ILL requests. In addition, they have identified core journals which are essential to the mission of NIST and its research priorities.

[Editor's Note: Handouts and presentations from this session have been posted on the Chemistry Division's blog at http://dche.blogspot.com/2007/06/collection-development-in-electronic.html]

Federated Searching: the Good, the Bad and the Ugly

Tuesday, June 5, 2007
Presented by: Science-Technology and Food, Agriculture and Nutrition (FAN) Divisions
Sponsored by: Open Text Corporation, EBSCO Information Services
Moderator: Carol Lucke, Naval Research Laboratory Library
Panelists: Jina Choi Wakimoto, University of Colorado, Boulder, Doris Small Helfer, California State University, Northridge and Susan Fingerman, R.E. Gibson Library & Information Center, The Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory, Maryland
Reported by: Vani Inampudi, UC San Diego, vinampudi@library.ucsd.edu

The California State University system has 23 campuses with 417,000 students, and 46,000 faculty and staff. The metasearch project was carried out by teams from the CSU system. Cal-State Northridge implemented Metalib, from ExLibris, version 2.0 in August 2004, and upgraded v3.0 in Spring 2005.

The Good: simultaneous searching on multiple databases; user attributes and access permissions can be controlled by library; integration with OpenURL; personalization - users can define and save their own database and e-journal lists.

The Bad: Metasearchable resources are intermixed with non-metasearchable resources (in California State implementation). Therefore the users need to be knowledgeable enough to understand the interface/s. Searching capability is limited, the user cannot limit the search by author abbreviation, audience level or document type. Duplicate records are not always recognized. Differences in thesauri and indexing between databases cause the results to be inconsistent. Simultaneous usage restrictions vary with each database.

The Ugly: Each database has different search time-outs. Searching can be extremely slow. The interface is complex and not intuitive and help is insufficient.

Improvements are being made, including better search functionality, better clustering of results, and the separation of back end and front end interfaces. CSU San Marcos and San Jose State University are experimenting with implementing an X-server interface to dynamically drive library web pages while enhancing search functionality. Wakimoto says Google's Universal Search could serve as an "ideal" metasearch model, as could USASearch.gov.

Doris Helfer presented the user assessment of Metalib done by CSU Northridge. The points covered in the 18 question web survey included comparing native database searching with metasearch, ease of use of Metalib, and knowledge about metasearching. The report gave both the librarians' and the students' perspectives.

Findings included:

- 62% of the users did not feel the need for library training; 68% of the users thought metasearching limited their search to scholarly journals, which is not true. Users were not aware that Metalib can do both multi or single source searching using one interface.
- User suggestions included the wish for overall easier navigation and easier navigation from MySpace (personal site in Metalib) to the current search. The users' felt they needed a Boolean 'cheat sheet' and that it was more difficult to find full text articles in Metalib than individual databases.
- Librarian Assessment Survey: Most librarians were negative about using metasearch; They did not teach federated searching and did not feel confident in the technology.
- Students liked the one-stop-shopping experience but they lacked the knowledge to

judge the quality of results. The advantage of federated searching is encouraging usage of deeper scholarly content. Federated searching needs more development.

Susan Fingerman spoke from the perspective of a research lab librarian. She reminisced on her use of federated search systems like Dialog, Lexis-Nexis, and BRS and observed that science and technology content became widely disaggregated by individual vendors after 2000. Now, end-user federated search systems are being developed as the expectations of researchers to find all content online in fulltext increases.

Users at the Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory are high level scientists and engineers. Focus groups were conducted at every campus, to assess the interface of federated searching products. The participants at APL were more concerned with how the back end worked than with the GUI.

APL receives the majority of database content jointly with the rest of JHU, but has some unique licenses, which makes it challenging for Metalib implementation. Susan suggests that content licensing and interface issues are two things that need to be considered before implementing Metalib.

Susan made the following points: the number of retrieved results on Metalib varies from the number of results actually shown; users have to go to individual databases to get more comprehensive results; results ranking does not make sense as most results are ranked at the same level – JHU turned off this feature; metasearch products cannot provide the limiting options (faceted indexing) now provided by individual databases such as Compendex or search products such as Scopus.

Future JHU/APL Metalib development includes customizing the product with content subsets suited to APL staff needs, making personalization possible through authentification, and the inclusion of the e-journals module.

Computer Science Roundtable

Tuesday, June 5, 2007
Presented by: Physics-Astronomy-Math and Science-Technology Divisions
Moderator: Daniel Dotson, The Ohio State University
Sponsored by: ACM
Reported by: Brian Quigley, UC Berkeley, bquigley@library.berkeley.edu

The Computer Science Roundtable for 2007 offered an opportunity for an open discussion of issues related to computer science information and resources.

Database issues
The first issue was duplication among IEEE, ACM, and aggregators. This topic generated little discussion, though some participants liked the duplication as long as it helped users find publications. Other participants stressed the importance of subscribing to the publisher platform since aggregators are more volatile, with no guarantees that specific publications will remain in their databases.

Some users have noted problems with IEEE Xplore and other resources on Macs. Problems seem to occur most often when patrons use Safari as a browser, so most of us recommended using Firefox on Macs instead. In its technical support, IEEE Xplore recommends using Internet Explorer 5.2.3 or Netscape 7.1 on Macs.

Serials issues
Some institutions have experienced problems loading MARC records for Lecture Notes in Computer Science. No one has heard about a resolution to this problem.

Most participants are adding open access journals to their electronic journals lists and/or catalogs. Institutions are mainly using the Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ) to identify these journals, though they also discover them through blogs, listservs, knowledgebases, and patron recommendations. Participants agreed that DOAJ does not include all open access journals, and not all of the journals it includes are robust. Participants generally felt it was worthwhile to catalog open access journals, but this cataloging does add to our backlogs.

One participant noted that a recent OCLC survey ranked the catalog low on the list of places people go to find information, which led the group to wonder if it is more important to keep our electronic journals lists and link resolvers updated. With more users finding articles online through search engines, we are also encountering more "appropriate copy"

and authentication problems. One participant mentioned that her institution's LibX toolbar includes a "reload through proxy" option.

Ebooks

Representatives from Safari (ProQuest) and Books24x7 attended the roundtable to answer questions. Some libraries would like to add local access to more titles on top of their consortial licenses to Safari, but this is not currently possible. One participant noticed that some Safari ebooks do not have MARC records. Another participant wondered if it would be possible to get RSS feeds of new subscribed titles only. The representative promised to look into these issues. Safari is also adding videos and podcasts on a limited basis, but these are not currently available to the academic market.

In response to a question about Microsoft Vista books, the Books24x7 representative described their philosophy on collection development as focusing on popular, high-demand titles. He also noted that RSS feeds are only available for corporate customers.

Most libraries have stopped buying print copies of books that they can access on Safari or Books24x7, though many still buy on request. Some still buy high-use titles regularly, in case they have to cancel their online subscriptions in the future or because they cannot afford enough simultaneous users. Some participants expressed interest in sharing subscription costs with their campus IT departments, but others were concerned about their ability to afford these subscriptions if the IT departments later pulled their support in tight budget years.

Annual Diversity Breakfast: Managerial Leadership and Diversity: Where Do You Fall?

Tuesday, June 5, 2007
Presented by: Science-Technology Division and the Diversity Leadership Development Program Committee
Sponsored by: EBSCO, Thomson Scientific and Dialog
Speaker: Camila A. Alire, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque
Reported by: Sheila Rosenthal, Carnegie Mellon University, slr@sei.cmu.edu


Dr. Camila A. Alire

The presentation at the SLA Annual Diversity Leadership Breakfast, "Managerial Leadership and Diversity: Where Do You Fall?" was extremely well received by the early morning audience. Dr. Camila A. Alire, Interim Library Dean at the University of Colorado at Denver, while covering all of the important aspects of managerial leadership, emphasized the difference between managers (people who do things right) and leaders (people who do the right thing). The main theme of Dr. Alire's presentation was "Transformational Managerial Leadership." Her premise was that a transformational managerial leader must be open to diversity so that he or she will influence and empower the library staff to embrace change, move forward, and work on a shared vision.

Transformational managerial leaders (TML) possessing strong leadership competencies mentor and coach their staff in order for them to deal successfully with diversity. Managerial leadership is color blind. The way in which diversity is valued by the managers will affect the staff's attitudes, especially when building teams. Managerial leaders need to empower minorities. Dr. Alire covered diversity implications for key transformational leadership components such as: relationship-building, communications, problem solving, innovation, awareness, collaboration, and the challenges that they present.

Transformational managerial leaders must help minorities build their networks by serving as role models and leading by example. Communication skills in minority managerial leaders are challenged by stereotypes that accompany tentative speech patterns and/or strong accents. These have been equated with lack of education and ignorance. We must get beyond those stereotypes and accept minorities as the leaders they are.

Values must embrace and encourage diversity for effective teamwork. Risk-taking is not necessarily a leadership trait in minorities, so an atmosphere that encourages them to take risks must be provided. Human Resources (HR) management is the key to diversity. HR must take the lead in finding and encouraging minorities to apply for positions and work with minority individuals in their professional development.

In conclusion, Dr. Alire left us with a case study showing how one Library and Information Center Manager, who thought she had done an excellent job recruiting minorities, still had a lot to learn about how to retain minorities on her workforce.

At the end of the presentation, the audience introduced themselves and discussed how diversity is addressed at their individual organizations. One member of the audience became so emotional that she actually began to cry.

Not only did Dr. Alire's presentation keep us all awake, she succeeded in bringing out emotions and sensitive memories among many members of the audience. This was an extremely meaningful, thoughtful, and very worthwhile presentation.

Science and Engineering Resources 101

Tuesday, June 5, 2007
Presented by: Science-Technology and Engineering Divisions
Sponsored by: ASTM International
Speakers: Mary Frances Lembo, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (mf.lembo@pnl.gov)
And James Manasco, University of Louisville (james.manasco@louisville.edu)
Reported by: Danny Dotson, Ohio State University, dotson.77@osu.edu

The focus of Science and Engineering Resources 101 this year was on geosciences. Each speaker discussed a variety of resources in their area and provided valuable screen shots from a number of online resources.

Mary Frances Lembo covered a variety of atmospheric sciences resources, including web sites, subscription databases, and relevant societies. Important web sites include:

- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (http://www.noaa.org/)
- Department of Energy's Science Accelerator search engine (http://www.scienceaccelerator.gov/)
- NASA Earth Observatory (http://earthobservatory.nasa.gov/)
- National Center for Atmospheric Research (http://www.ncar.ucar.edu/)

Important subscription databases include:

- GeoRef
- INSPEC
- Meteorological and Geophysical Abstracts
- National Technical Information Service (NTIS) database

Key societies include:

- American Meteorological Society (http://www.ametsoc.org/)
- Canadian Meteorological and Oceanographic Society (http://www.cmos.ca/)
- Royal Meteorological Society (http://www.rmets.org/)
- Australian Meteorological and Oceanographic Society (http://www.amos.org.au/)
- European Meteorological Society (http://www.emetsoc.org/)
- World Meteorological Organization (http://www.wmo.ch)

James Manasco focused on geology and geography. He recommended a number of background materials, several databases, indexes, and abstracts, society resources, and ended with Google Earth and some digital preservation initiatives. The background materials mentioned included a number of print items, such as the *Macmillan Encyclopedia of Earth Sciences* (ISBN 0028830008). He also mentioned a number of web resources such as Geological Guidebooks of North America (http://guide.georef.org/dbtw-wpd/guidens.htm), which allows users to search for Field Trip guidebooks (with holding locations, if available).

Geology and geography databases include:

- GeoRef
- GEOBASE
- INSPEC
- Web of Science
- NTIS
- Geonames (http://gnswww.nga.mil/geonames/GNS/index.jsp, non-U.S. geographic feature names)
- Getty Thesaurus of Geographic Names (http://www.getty.edu/research/conducting_research/vocabularies/tgn/index.html, names, coordinates, and physical details)

The United States Geological Survey (USGS) (http://www.usgs.gov), has several important databases, including:

- USGS Minerals Information (http://minerals.usgs.gov/minerals/)
- USGS National Geologic Map Database (http://ngmdb.usgs.gov/)

- Water Resources Abstracts (http://waterdata.usgs.gov/nwis)

The Library of Congress's Geography and Map Division has a digitized collection of over 4.5 million items (http://lcweb2.loc.gov/ammem/gmdhtml/gmdhome.html).

Several important societies were also mentioned:

- American Library Association Map and Geography Roundtable (http://magert.whoi.edu/)
- Association of Canadian Map Libraries and Archives (http://www.ssc.uwo.ca/assoc/acml/acmla.html)
- Geoscience Information Society (http://www.geoinfo.org/)
- International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions Geography and Map Libraries Section (http://www.ifla.org/VII/s6/index.htm)
- North East Map Organization (http://ublib.buffalo.edu/libraries/asl/maps/nemo.html)
- SLA Geography and Map Section of the Social Science Division (http://units.sla.org/division/dgm/index.htm)
- Western Association of Map Libraries (http://www.waml.org/)

Google Earth (http://earth.google.com/) and several digital preservation initiatives under the National Digital Information Infrastructure and Preservation Program, including one at North Carolina State University (http://www.lib.ncsu.edu/ncgdap/index.html) and the University of California at Santa Barbara (http://ngda.org/research.php) were discussed.

E-Books on Steroids

Wednesday, June 6, 2007
Presented by: Science-Technology Division
Sponsored by: CSI ProQuest, Ebrary, Knovel, CrossRef
Moderator: Sara Thompson, University of Southern California
Panelists: Cynthia Cleto, Springer; Chris Warnock, eBrary; Todd Fagen, ProQuest; and Chris Forbes, Knovel
Reported by: Vani Inampudi, UC San Diego, vinampudi@library.ucsd.edu

The vendor representatives were asked to address the following issues:

- Purchasing models and Pricing structures available for their products
- Digital Rights Management (DRM) concerning printing, cutting/pasting and page viewing
- Usability- readers and usage statistics available for their customers
- Steroids that make them bigger, better and faster

Knovel

- Purchasing and pricing models are fairly simple with annual or multi-year subscription. Pricing structure is tier based on usage for corporate customers and the size of the institution for academic models.
- Downloading, printing, cutting and pasting is unlimited. As a part of their DRM, Knovel is planning to add a digital watermark to all their content and building their backend system to restrict the use to authorized users. They have four experienced librarians on staff that look at security vs. usability, and check to see if the users are authorized.
- Usage statistics are delivered to customers on a monthly basis and are available in variety of formats.
- Knovel focuses on engineers and scientists. Through their specialized tools, content and complex formatting of information, they strive to make the engineers' experience more productive. Content and user requests are continually reviewed by subject matter experts. 1500 unit converters are available online. Knovel will soon be including the Mathematica unit converter.

ProQuest (representing Safari Books)

- ProQuest has a subscription based pricing model based on FTE or the number of simultaneous users. There are two different options within the institutional model – subscription to the entire file or a two year rolling file. Their "Book Choose" option allows subscribers to choose the books in their collection based on discipline, publisher, or by date etc. Customers can also swap books in and out of the collection at any time.
- Safari offers unlimited printing and downloading at chapter level. Faculty can post up to two sections online.
- Reports on usage statistics are available online.
- ProQuest is striving to improve the search functionality and add more content

eBrary

- Subscriptions are available to individual titles, a collection, or all the books. They offer a multi-user access model which allows customers to pay 1½ times the suggested retail price of a book. Users get unlimited simultaneous access to it. Pricing is tier based.
- eBrary has a simple DRM. Customers are limited to printing 20 pages per session. They have not received any complaints on this limit. They view downloading, which is equal to modern printing, as a violation of the copyright law. Warnock believes that copyright must be preserved.
- Requires a reader plug-in. Since many do not like the idea of a plug-in, eBrary is developing a Java application. They have 100,000 reader downloads per month.
- eBrary developed their own reader, that allows libraries to integrate other databases or resources from other vendors into the system and customize it to meet their needs.

Springer

- Springer's pricing is based on FTE and the type of institution. Customers receive perpetual access upon payment of a one-time fee. Purchasing can be done by subject categories.
- Professors are allowed to integrate book sections into online courses. They feel they have a reasonable DRM.
- Usage statistics are available online to administrators. They have statistics down to the chapter level. The chapters are PDF versions and hence no plug-ins or additional software is required.
- Springer's system is on steroids because of the sheer volume of books available. There are 17,000 books available online and the collection is growing by hundreds each year.

Corporate Roundtable

Wednesday, June 6, 2007
Presented by: Chemistry and Engineering Divisions
Sponsored by: Elsevier, IEEE and Royal Society of Chemistry
Moderators: Mary Crompton and Luray Minkiewicz
Reported by: Luray Minkiewicz, Luray.M.Minkiewicz@USA.dupont.com

In 2007, the Roundtable format was changed as a result of the comments from last year's evaluation forms. It was decided to try "Table Topics," that is, having attendees discuss a particular topic while enjoying breakfast, after which each table reported on their topic, with time for additional comments.

The topics chosen for the discussions, based on attendee input before the conference, were:

- Corporate Archives
- Information Literacy Requirements for New Employees
- Library Management topics (Metrics, Marketing and ROI)
- Social Networking
- Traditional databases vs. Free databases
- Web Editions v. Print Editions
- Wikis and Blogs

While the group discussing Corporate Archives were grappling with questions such as "when should corporate archives be digitized?" and "what happens to these materials when people leave the organization?" (Sounds like some Knowledge Management case studies here!). The Information Literacy for New Employees topic generated some interesting outcomes. The group felt that new employees need to be re-trained on using the information tools specific to the organization. My interpretation of this for academic librarians is that information literacy should be more about the generalized concepts and criteria in searching, assessing, critiquing, organizing and analyzing information, not necessarily on the "tools" used, since these will vary from employer to employer.

At the Library Management topics table, book clubs, both in person and online, were mentioned as a unique marketing tool that could be used by the library. The online book club from Suzanne Beecher at www.dearreader.com was mentioned as one example. Methods for gathering metrics included using "simplified sign-on" data to track who uses various electronic information resources.

Wikis and Blogs are apparently not used extensively in corporate environments, with some exceptions for agendas, meeting minutes, etc. The Social Networking discussion centered on the use of other Web 2.0 features found in FaceBook, YouTube and MySpace as methods to help people in global corporations collaborate and get connected in a "knowledge network".

User education on the comprehensiveness and cost of traditional versus "free" Databases, (e.g. does "free" always mean "free"?) were the issues that surfaced at another roundtable.

Finally, the Web Editions versus Print Editions discussion centered around balancing the needs of our user groups along with the transition to "just in time" from "just in case" holdings. Concerns included having accurate date stamps on online versions for legal citation purposes and being able to access older editions of some important reference materials. Those older editions may be available in print only if updates supersede earlier content.

Science Education via Graphic Books

Wednesday, June 6, 2007
Presented by: Chemistry and Education Divisions
Sponsored by: Rittenhouse Book Distributors, Inc., Elsevier
Speakers: Lois Gresh & James Kakalios
Reported by: Theo Jones-Quartey, Grace Co, theo.s.jones-quartey@grace.com

Dr. James Kakalios, Professor of Physics and Astronomy at the University of Minnesota School of Physics, uses comics to free his students from the fear of science. He says an insecurity about science and math causes people to put up shields which come down when they are explained using comics. For years he has taught a popular freshman seminar titled "Everything I Know of Science I Learned from Reading Comic Books."

After his essay discussing the plausibility of Spider-Man's powers was published in the May 2002 Minnesota Star Tribune, Kakalios was thrust into the limelight. He received calls from CNN, BBC and the London Times and numerous requests for interviews. He is the subject of a "*Trivial Pursuit*" question, and was featured in a 2003 *People Magazine* article. His book, *The Physics of Superheroes* was published in 2006.

Kakalios explores the science behind the powers of popular comic superheroes to illustrate real scientific principles and finds that comic books sometimes get the science right. He went on quite engagingly to illustrate this. Superman's strength and ability to leap over a tall building in a single bound can be explained by understanding the gravity on Krypton, Superman's home planet. The question to contemplate here is how strong gravity on Krypton would need to be for Superman's muscles to be strong enough. All the factors needed to calculate this are provided in the comics.

In the Spiderman edition, "*Amazing Fantasy*", Newton's Laws of Motion can be examined when Wall Crawler's girlfriend, Gwen, falls off the George Washington Bridge. The question here is: was it the fall or Spider-man's webbing that caused her death? In *Marvel Comics Universe*, the magnetic properties of matter are illustrated when Magneto, the evil mutant master of magnetism, is able to levitate himself and others. He can do this because water molecules are diametric. When comic superhero's feats fail to stand up to scientific scrutiny Kakalios calls them, "scientific bloopers".

Lois Gresh, Creative-Technical Director, University of Rochester Science, Technology, Engineering, & Math, has authored 14 science fiction books, translated into many languages. She was nominated for the national fiction award six times and is a staff book reviewer for www.scifiweekly.com and the Science Fiction Cable Channel. Her mindset is similar to Kakalios'; she finds comics are filled with thought provoking science topics. Her two books *The Science of Superheroes and The Science of Supervillains,* co-authored with Robert Weinberg, explore the facts behind the comic superhero characters to determine what is logically possible or not. She explained that today's comics were spawned from early science fiction and displayed a series of covers of modern comics such as Conan side by side with those of original/classic novels such as *The Forgotten Planet* to show the amazing similarity.

Gresh related some comic world situations she has explored. In Batman's *Poison Ivy*, "can a woman kill a man using lipstick?" Chemistry offers a possibility of chloroform in the lipstick. In Spiderman, *The Lizard*, "can a person turn himself into a lizard?" Knowledge of biology, gene therapy and tissue regeneration can be used to examine this. In *Vandal Savage and Apocalypse*, "is it possible not to die?" Biology, nanotechnology, biotechnology, stem cell science and cryonics will help determine this. Some situations are downright impossible such as the case of *The Hulk,* alter ego of Dr. Bruce Banner, a nuclear physics genius who, exposed to gamma radiation, turned into the *Incredible Hulk*. Strength and gravity show it is scientifically impossible for Superman to be that strong. To

make his story work he had to be from another planet, Krypton. Donald Duck comics are loaded with thought-provoking scientific escapades. In the 1940s Sunken Yacht episode, a boat was raised after being filled with ping-pong balls. Subsequently in 1964, a patent claim by a Professor Kroeger dealt with using buoyant bodies to raise a sunken vessel.

Kakalios told us that comic books can teach us how to be scientists by challenging us to use our knowledge of scientific rules and laws and to use our critical thinking and problem solving skills. Gresh said comic books teach people about science. This session certainly proved both assertions. While on the surface it was a fun and entertaining hour and a half, I for one, quite painlessly learned a bit of science.

New Technologies in Instruction and Training: Poster Sessions

Wednesday, June 6, 2007
Presented by: Physics-Astronomy-Mathematics (PAM) and Science-Technology Divisions
Sponsored by: ACM
Moderators: William W. Armstrong, Louisiana State University, and Irene S. Laursen, Wellesley College.
Reported by: Mitchell Brown, UC Irvine, mcbrown@uci.edu

This program was a lively session of twenty poster presentations. Blogs, wikis, podcasts, webinars, RSS feeds, and personal response systems (clickers) are just some of the technologies that have everyone talking. The posters gave a view of how colleagues actually use new technology to communicate with and educate their patrons. The session included two presentations on classroom teaching with "clicker' technology, video tutorials, survey tools using SurveyMonkey, and distance training using video and remote desktop software. Abstracts of the poster session are available at http://units.sla.org/division/dche/2007/poster.htm

Titles of the sessions were:

1. Using Tegrity® for Instruction and Training: A Pilot Project and Results
2. The New Library Newsletter.
3. WISPR - Blending Library Instruction and Inquiry Based Learning
4. Using SurveyMonkey for an Attitude Adjustment: A Comparison of Faculty, Graduate Student, and Librarian Opinions On Library Instruction.
5. Using Screen Capture Technology to Create a Video Catalog of "Frequently Asked Questions"
6. Remote Desktop Technologies: Using the Desktop as a Training Venue
7. Use of Educational Technologies by Science-Engineering Faculty
8. Podcasting video screen-capture instruction tutorials.
9. Blogging Faculty Publications.
10. Podcasts and Wikis for Communication and Collaboration
11. Make it a CHALLENGE ! The use of StudyMate to create an interactive review of chemical information seeking skills.
12. Leaving a trail of bread crumbs.
13. Hands-on Remote Training in Chemical Information.
14. Connecting with the Millennials.
15. Utilizing a Classroom Personal Response System for Academic Library Instruction in the Sciences.
16. Bioterrorism at UF: Exploring and Developing a Library Instruction Video Game for New Students.
17. Analyzing the student research cycle with ella, the Mount Holyoke College Electronic Learning Arena.
18. Enabling technologies in the corporate world.
19. Use of Wikis and Macromedia Breeze in Chemical Information and Cheminformatics Instruction at Indiana University.
20. Teaching in Two Places at the Same Time Using Macromedia Breeze (Acrobat Connect).

Contributed Papers and Additional Sessions

SLA sponsored papers can be found at http://slablogger.typepad.com/sla_blog/2007/06/contributed_pap.html

Science-Technology Division sponsored papers on the theme "Responding to the New in Sci-Tech and Engineering Libraries" can be found at http://units.sla.org/division/dst/Annual%20Conference%20Contributed%20Papers/2007papers/2007papers.html

More session reports, from other Divisions, can be found at the SLA Conference Blog at http://slablogger.typepad.com/sla_blog/