

August 2012

## Science-Technology Division

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### Recommended Citation

Hansen, Cheryl A.; Oelker, Sarah K.; and Samuel, Sara (2012) "Science-Technology Division," *Sci-Tech News*: Vol. 66: Iss. 3, Article 9.

Available at: <https://jdc.jefferson.edu/scitechnews/vol66/iss3/9>

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## News from the Science-Technology Division

### Science-Technology Division Cheryl Hansen, 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.'



Just think, we are already halfway through 2012. Time has flown by since the last issue of STN came out. The 2012 Chicago Conference has come and gone and was a success. I hope that many of you were able to join your colleagues there to network, learn new things, share your knowledge, network, and enjoy the receptions, get refreshed and network. Yes, I just used network multiple times. The reason for that is that one of my top reasons for attending the annual conference is to network with my friends/colleagues.

I also go to find out what is new in the profession, what has come around again, to gain knowledge but in the end it always circles back to networking. For me SLA is a gigantic network that helps me to identify, locate and deliver the information that my users need. I love to hear one of my engineers tell a guest that "our librarian is connected all over the world and can find almost anything." What makes that possible is the network that I have gained through being a member of SLA for the past twenty-eight years.

I hope you read brief write-ups on the programs that Sci-Tech sponsored. Attendance at Sci-Tech programs was very good, I am happy to report. Our annual breakfast/business meeting started off our programming and we ended with the always popular Science-Technology and Engineering 101 session on Wednesday morning. On Monday morning, we met our various division award winners. Geeta Paliwal won the Bonnie Hilditch International Librarian Award, Vivienne Houghton won the S. Kirk Cabeen Travel Stipend, and Simon Barron won the Diane K. Foster International Student Travel Award. Joe Kraus, past chair won the Impossible Award.

The Keynote speaker on Sunday was Guy Kawasaki, Apple's former "chief evangelist" and co-founder of ALLTop.com, who was great. He talked about his latest book, *Enchantment*, that came out in 2011. I will no longer worry about crow's feet around my eyes since hearing him.

The SLA business meeting went well; things are still tight moneywise with the Association but are slowly getting better according to our Treasurer, Dan Trefethen. Headquarters staff is the smallest it has been in years and is working harder than ever for us.

The amount of vendors at the Info Expo was down from past years, but the ones there got lots of questions from the attendees. And what would the annual conference be without the receptions put on by the units and the vendors? My favorite this year was the dance party put on by the IT Division and Dow Jones. It was a good time to let loose and relax with friends after a long day of meetings.

Please remember to check the Sci-Tech website for new information regularly <http://scitech.sla.org/> -- it is a great place to keep up with what is happening within the division. Also please remember that our yearly unit election is in September. PLEASE VOTE. The three candidates for treasurer and the candidate for chair-elect were introduced at our annual business breakfast and their bios will be sent out again closer to the election. They are also located further on in this issue. Many thanks to these four people who are running for office. I will use this as a chance to ask all of our membership to consider becoming more involved with the division. Put yourself up as a candidate for office or to chair a committee or just to sit on a committee. Sci-Tech needs you; we are stronger when we work together.

One more plug before I close. There are several open positions on the Sci-Tech Board that need filling, please contact me ([cahansen@esi-il.com](mailto:cahansen@esi-il.com)) if you are interested in one of these.

The openings are for a Vendor Relations Chair, STN Business Manager and for a Professional Development Chair. No experience needed, just a willingness to learn and to try new things. Again contact me if you want to learn more about these positions.

My THANKS to all those who have helped me so far this year, I couldn't do it without your help. Have a great fall! ❖

Cheryl Hansen,  
2012 Chair, Sci-Tech Division  
[cahansen@esi-il.com](mailto:cahansen@esi-il.com)

## Science-Technology Division New Members

*Submitted by Sarah Oelker, Membership Committee Chair, Science-Technology Division*

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### **The Science-Technology Division welcomes its new members:**

Simon Alcock  
London, England  
UK

Phillip Hewitt  
Allentown, PA  
USA

Laura Mullin  
Chantilly, VA  
USA

Simon Barron  
Durham, England  
UK

Vivienne Houghton  
Glendale, CO  
USA

Anna Muszynski  
Lexington, MA  
USA

Harry Brooks  
Gaithersburg, MD  
USA

Shashikanta Jena  
Faridabad, Haryana  
INDIA

Lisa Ngo  
Berkeley, CA  
USA

Elizabeth Cheney  
Los Angeles, CA  
USA

Genny Jon  
Toronto, ON  
Canada

Mark Roux  
North Truro, MA  
USA

Kira Cooper  
San Diego, CA  
USA

Staci Kaplan  
New York, NY  
USA

Michael Shapiro  
Seattle, WA  
USA

Jeremy Cusker  
Ithaca, NY  
USA

Gail King  
Noblesville, IN  
USA

Cheryl Thompson  
Hillsborough, NC  
USA

Carol Darlington  
Hopeland, PA  
USA

Diane Leblond  
Morrisville, NC  
USA

Beth Thomsett-Scott  
Denton, TX  
USA

Michelle Dillon  
Seattle, WA  
USA

Nicole Luce-Rizzo  
Hoboken, NJ  
USA

Arwen Ungar  
Portland, OR  
USA

Bernadette Duffy  
Vancouver, BC  
Canada

Susan Lynch  
New Paltz, NY  
USA

Matthew Woods  
San Francisco, CA  
USA

Liz Francis  
Allston, MA  
USA

Amanda Malanowski  
Glen Burnie, MD  
USA

Peter Grimm  
Olney, MD  
USA

Brittany Mudd  
St Charles, MO  
USA

## Science-Technology Division Member Profile: Abby Bedford

Submitted by Sara Samuel, Membership Committee, Science-Technology Division

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As the new *Sci-Tech News* Assistant Editor, we thought it would be good to introduce Abby Bedford to the readership. Abby is a science librarian at Grand Valley State University in Allendale, Michigan. She mostly works with undergraduate students in her subject areas, but also does collection development and instruction for those areas. Abby was gracious enough to answer some questions via email to help us get to know her a bit better.

### Tell us a little bit about your current position.

I am the liaison librarian for Biology, Biomedical Sciences, Cell & Molecular Biology, Chemistry, and Physics. The first three areas have master's programs, but I mostly work with undergraduate students. My responsibilities include collection development and instruction for those areas. I'm also tenure-track faculty, so that means I need to be participating in service within the university and within librarianship as well as working toward publishing (or other scholarly/creative output related to librarianship).

### Tell us why you wanted to become a librarian.

I became a librarian for two reasons. One, I love a good puzzle. Searching for literature for a student on a topic about which I know very little is a challenge I can't pass up. I kind of feel like House, M.D., in my puzzle obsessions. Two, I really enjoy helping people out. There's nothing more rewarding than helping a student find that perfect article or seeing the light bulb moment for a student during a library instruction session.

### What was your background before you became a science librarian?

I went to school for music--vocal music to be specific--and then went to library school with the intention of becoming a music librarian. I ended up working at a health sciences library as a grad student which led me into a health sciences position after graduating. When the science position opened up on the main campus of GVSU, I jumped at the opportunity for a new challenge.

### What do you find most interesting about your work?

I love that I get to hear about all the great things going on in the science world. I'm not a scientist by any means and exploring science topics with my students and faculty helps me to understand something into which I wouldn't ordinarily have any insight.



Abby Bedford

### What do you think is the most interesting issue in librarianship today?

I think that demonstrating our value is a hugely interesting concept. We can't just write reports saying libraries are valuable, we have to sell ourselves. We have to learn how to perform.

### What has been your biggest professional challenge?

I've been having a hard time finding my "niche" in librarianship. I don't necessarily fit the traditional liaison librarian mold and I'm trying to figure out how who I am can serve the profession. I also struggle with being a tenure-track faculty member. The need to publish and be a part of faculty governance at a young(er) age is a bit stressful. I've been elected chair of a governance committee for this coming academic year and I'm petrified, but I know it will be a huge growing experience for me.

### What organizations are you involved in?

I've been involved in the Michigan Library Association and am a member of ALA & ACRL. Recently, I took on the post of assistant editor of *Sci-Tech News*.

### What are some of your interests outside of librarianship?

I'm a musician by training, so I sing with the Grand Rapids Symphony Chorus. This past year we had a great season, including Beethoven's 9th, Mahler's 8th, and live accompaniment to *The Lord of the Rings: Return of the King*. I'm also an avid knitter and all around DIY addict. On the side, I do some graphic design work.

**What advice would you give a new member of SLA, new Librarian, or someone starting out in science librarianship?**

Jump in head first. Don't wait for someone to tell you what to do. Show initiative. And if you don't know anything about science (like me), go out and learn it. SLA offers great CE courses to help you out and there are some fantastic webinars available out there to help you get on your way.

**Thank you, Abby, for sharing with us!**

**Here are some links to things that Abby mentions:**

- Grand Valley State University: <http://gvsu.edu/>
- Grand Rapids Symphony Chorus: <http://www.grsymphony.org/grs/affiliates/chorus/>
- Michigan Library Association: <http://www.mla.lib.mi.us/>
- American Library Association (ALA): <http://www.ala.org/>
- Association of College & Research Libraries (ACRL): <http://www.ala.org/acrl/>
- SLA Click University: <http://www.sla.org/content/learn/index.cfm>❖

## Science-Technology Division Candidates

*for Chair-Elect and Treasurer*

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The Sci-Tech Division Nominations and Elections Committee is very excited to present to you the candidates who have stepped up to run for Chair-Elect and Treasurer (starting in 2013). Get to know these candidates and thank them for offering to run for these important and critical leadership positions within our Division. We have fantastic, smart, generous leaders within our ranks and these 4 candidates are ready and willing to continue to support our Division.

Electronic voting will begin in September. The voting instructions will be sent to Division members via the Sci-Tech Division email distribution list ([SLA-DST@sla.lyris.net](mailto:SLA-DST@sla.lyris.net)) and will be posted on the Sci-Tech Division website (<http://scitech.sla.org/>).

Have questions? Contact any members of the 2012 Nominations and Elections Committee:

Hilary Davis, [hilary\\_davis@ncsu.edu](mailto:hilary_davis@ncsu.edu)

Pam Enrici, [penrici@d.umn.edu](mailto:penrici@d.umn.edu)

Anna Ren, [annawu@northwestern.edu](mailto:annawu@northwestern.edu)

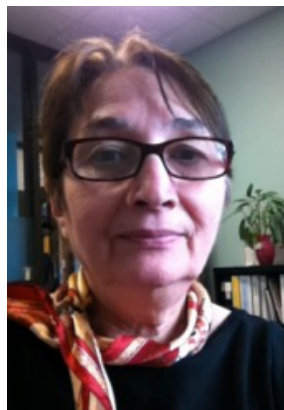
Christine Whitaker, [christine.whitaker@uscmed.sc.edu](mailto:christine.whitaker@uscmed.sc.edu)

Nancy Wilmes, [n.wilmes@wayne.edu](mailto:n.wilmes@wayne.edu)

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### Candidate for Chair-Elect:

The Chair-Elect serves a 3-year term as Chair-Elect/Chair/Past-Chair from January 2013 through December 2015. 1st year: oversees programming planning for the 2014 annual conference. 2nd Year: leads the Board and makes committee appointments. 3rd year: responsible for governing documents.



**Nevenka Zdravkovska:** Nevenka Zdravkovska has been working at the University of Maryland since 2006 as the Head of the Engineering and Physical Sciences Library (EPSL). Prior to joining the University of Maryland, she was with Georgetown University since 1998 as Science Reference Librarian at the Blommer Science Library. For two years (1996-1998) Nevenka was the Reference Librarian at the Jefferson Lab in Newport News, VA.

Active in SLA since 2006, Nevenka is the current Treasurer of both the Science-Technology Division (DST) and the Maryland Chapter, and has been Chair of the International Committee of DST for five years. As Chair of the International Committee she was instrumental in establishing a joint international student travel award where DST teams with various SLA chapters each year to help library/information studies graduate students outside of North America attend SLA annual conferences. Nevenka was member of the DST Vendor Relations Committee when the Committee received recognition from the Division. Nevenka has wide-ranging

experience in committee work, strategy, programming and event planning. If given the honor to serve the Science-Technology Division as Chair-Elect Nevenka looks forward to planning exciting, stimulating and informative programs and networking events for the Division, and increasing membership.

Nevenka has a Bachelor of Science in Physics and a Masters in Library Science.

**Candidates for Treasurer** (last name alphabetical order): serves a two year term, January 2013 to December 2014.

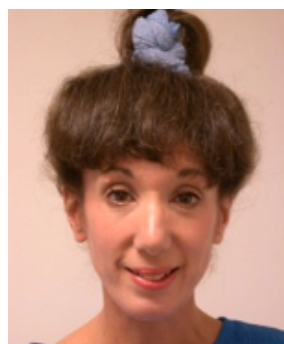


**Thea Allen:** Thea Allen is the Interlibrary Loan/Cataloging Librarian at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Library in Research Triangle Park, NC. She has been an active member in SLA since graduating from UNC SILS in 2007 in the Science-Technology Division, Environment and Resource Management Division (ERMD), and with the North Carolina Chapter. In Sci-Tech, Thea has served as the Chair of the Student Relations Committee since 2008 and has been a member of the Annual Conference Planning Committee for the past two years. She also served from 2007-2009 as the Treasurer of the Environment and Resource Management Division, and is currently the First-Year Director of the North Carolina Chapter of SLA. She is interested in continuing to stay active and involved in SLA and Sci-Tech. She believes that her past experience as Treasurer of ERMD will be beneficial in taking on this role within Sci-Tech and is looking forward to serving and helping out the Division.



**Becky Miller:** Becky is currently the Electronic Resources & Instruction Librarian at Touro University California, where she is a liaison to the Pharmacy, Public Health, and Physician Assistant programs. Prior to her current position, she worked on the Health and Environmental Research Online database project at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Previously, she spent more than a decade working as a biologist, with a specialty in botany and wetlands. While taking classes towards her MLIS, she discovered SLA through an email advertising the Sci-Tech Student Membership contest – she entered the contest, and she’s been an SLA Sci-Tech Division member ever since. In 2009 Becky won a student stipend to attend her first SLA annual meeting, where she had the opportunity to meet other Sci-Tech members and was asked to join the Student Relations Committee (SRC). She has been an active member of the SRC and helped start the Conference Buddy program, which she now coordinates. She has also written articles for chapter and division newsletters,

planned and attended neighborhood dinners, and presented a poster at the All Sciences Poster Session. Serving as Treasurer of the Sci-Tech Division would give her an opportunity to contribute to the Division in a different way and learn new skills. She has been treasurer of two co-op houses, and is actively involved with budgeting at her library.



**Sheila Rosenthal:** Sheila Rosenthal is currently a Senior Librarian and member of the Library Faculty at Carnegie Mellon University (CMU). She also serves as Manager of Library Services at the Carnegie Mellon Software Engineering Institute (SEI) Library, where she has been employed for the past twenty five years. In June 2002, Sheila received the University Libraries’ Faculty Achievement Award for Excellence in Customer Satisfaction. In 2005, Sheila joined and became a very active member of the FFRDC (Federally Funded Research and Development Centers) RCIM (Research Center Information Managers) Group which allows her to network and bond with Library Directors at many of the FFRDCs that have important and influential relationships with the SEI.

Sheila is also very active in the Special Libraries Association (SLA), as the current Chair of the Awards Committee for the Science-Technology Division, a position she has held since 2007. Award winners have included applicants from within the United States as well as two International Awards. Recipients of these International Awards have included members of the Asian, European, and Australia/New Zealand Chapters within SLA. This year she has applied for the position of Treasurer for the Science-Technology Division. She is interested in this position as a way of becoming more active within the Division although she still greatly enjoys chairing the Awards Committee. Her position as Awards Chair increased her involvement with the SLA Asian Chapter and in March 2012 she was invited to their LIPS 2012 conference in New Delhi, India, to submit and present a paper (“Institutional Research Data Collection Methodologies and Tools: Library Request System and Citation Analysis”) and to chair one of their conference sessions. In 2010, Sheila co-authored a book chapter (“Life as a Corporate Librarian at the Software Engineering Institute”) for Best Practices for Corporate Libraries, edited by Marjorie J. Porter and Sigrid E. Kelsey.❖



## Science-Technology Division Committee Reports

*Science-Technology 2012 Committee Reports given at the  
SLA 2012 Annual Conference, Chicago, IL July 14-18, 2012*

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### Archives report July 2011 – June 2012

Richard P. Hulser, Chief Librarian, Natural History Museum Los Angeles County, asked me whether the Archives needed any back issues of the Bulletin that he was disposing of. Since they were already in the Archives collection he sent the 1987-1988 issues to Abby Thorne, Editor, *SciTech News*, for use in a scanning project.

I supplied Abby a scan of an article that Richard Hulser wrote about Ellis Mount ("Ellis Mount: a portrait", *Sci-Tech News* Vol. 39, No. 1 (January 1985): 5.) that she and Richard were considering reprinting in *SciTech News*. Ellis Mount, passed away recently.

I supplied Cheryl Hansen a list of past *Sci-Tech Achievement Award* winners.

Abby Thorne has the files for the 2009 - 2011 issues of *SciTech News* burned to a CD. We corresponded about placing a copy in the archives but never decided on a plan.

I have not been very diligent this year with several ideas for the Archives from previous years. They are listed below.

Future plans:

Should we try to post older electronic documents in Archivist files that are not on the SLA wiki?

Work with webpage manager to take a snapshot of *Sci-Tech* website every 6 months or so and burn to a CD/DVD for archives. Note: there are some pages archived at [http://web.archive.org/web/\\*/http://units.sla.org/division/dst/](http://web.archive.org/web/*/http://units.sla.org/division/dst/) from July 17, 2006 to June 20, 2008.

The archives contain duplicate copies of many current issues of the *Sci-Tech Bulletin* in case we want to scan them. I could probably have a few of my student workers do the work if there are no copyright issues involved in putting these on the *Sci-Tech Division* website.

Send updated inventory to webpage manger.

The Archives contains bound issues of the *Bulletin* through 2007. I should bind the ones af-

ter that date.

I need to print off using acid-free paper any *Bulletin* issues that we need that no longer come in print. So far I have printed Vol. 64, issues 1 and 2 (2010).

This summer I need to check the wiki and print off any documents that should be placed in the archives.

Submitted by Roger Beckman, Division Archivists July 12, 2012

### Awards Committee Report



Sci-Tech Division Award Winners (left to right):  
Vivienne Houghton, Geeta Paliwal, Simon Barron

First I would like to thank our returning committee members whose contributions are so greatly appreciated and who make my position as committee chair so rewarding and enjoyable: Diane Brenes, Engineering Division Awards Chair and co-sponsor of the Bonnie Hilditch Award, Molly Tebo, Dr. Shantanu Ganguly, Sara Samuel, Susan Powell, Dr. P.K. Jain, Dr. Debal C. Kar, Kathy Nordhaus, and Cindy Xiang. New members of our committee were Cynthia Cohen, last year's S. Kirk Cabeen Award winner and Dr. Harish Chandra winner of the 2011 Bonnie Hilditch Award. Unfortunately Dr. Chandra has been unable to attend both the Philadelphia and Chicago conferences so he has never officially received his Award. This year there were no nominations for the *Sci-Tech Achievement Award*, unlike last year when we had two winners, Susan Fingerman and Dr. Debal C. Kar.

It is unfortunate that Alaa H. Ridha the winner of the 2011 Sci-Tech Division and Arabian Gulf Chapter Student Award, has never joined SLA and never fulfilled her responsibilities for receipt of this award which included writing an article about her conference experiences for the fall issue of *Sci-Tech News* and serving as a member of the Sci-Tech Awards Committee for at least one year following the conference.

*Diane K. Foster International Student Travel Award*

At the June 2011 Sci-Tech Board Meeting in Philadelphia, Joe Kraus brought up the idea of honoring Diane K. Foster by naming our International Student Award the Diane K. Foster International Student Travel Award. This name change was officially approved by the Board at that meeting.

Nevenka Zdravkovska continued to offer her expert assistance in support of our Diane K. Foster Award. Since we had never worked with the Sub-Saharan Africa Chapter Nevenka initially tried to contact them. Formed in 2001, they are a very small chapter with only 23 members and they do not have an Awards Committee. Since this chapter was rather difficult to contact we thought it might be better to wait a few years for their membership to grow before we try to co-sponsor this award with them. In late September Nevenka was contacted by Bethan Ruddock Chair of the European Chapter Awards Committee, who asked if Sci-Tech was still interested in co-sponsoring the SLA Europe Early Career Conference Awards (ECCAs). We responded very favorably and agreed that we would each contribute \$1,000 to this award. Bethan was hoping to launch the awards late Dec/early Jan, and wanted to have a member of our Division on the judging panel. She had a total of 34 applicants and sent me all of the nomination materials for the 5 Sci-Tech applicants which I shared with our Awards Committee. Bethan was very organized, providing an official form for us to complete a section on each applicant and give reasons for the choices that we made. Our Awards Committee reached a very strong and decisive conclusion that Simon Barron would be the winner of this Award for the Sci-Tech Division. Simon was a "First Class Student" with an impressive work history who had also done a great deal of campaigning work for library advocacy. We were able to send the committee's decision to Bethan by her required due date of March 12th 2012 and she agreed that Simon was the best candidate. I

volunteered to be Simon's mentor before, during and after the conference. This was the fifth year in a row that the Sci-Tech Division had teamed up with an SLA Chapter outside of the US to honor an International MLS student, and the second time that we co-sponsored with the European Chapter. We really appreciated and enjoyed working with Bethan Ruddock on this Award.

The 2012 *S. Kirk Cabeen Travel Stipend* was awarded to Vivienne Houghton. Vivienne graduated from the University of Denver with a Master's in Library and Information Science in June 2012. She has also earned an Early Childhood Librarianship Fellow and received her undergraduate degree from the University of California at Los Angeles, a Bachelor of Arts in East Asian Studies, graduating Cum laude. Since March 2012 Vivienne has been working as a Research Fellow at the Library Research Services, Colorado State Library. In this position she does data and research analysis to create reports on Broadband Technology Opportunity (BTOP) Grant Project for Colorado's Public Computer Centers.

An Independent Study provided the opportunity for her to work in Dublin, Ireland and Boras Sweden. Vivienne has won several awards and participates in numerous professional activities and services, has attained a wide variety of computer skills and is a member of 9 professional associations on the state, national and international levels. These international associations include ALA, MLA and SLA.

The 2012 *Bonnie Hilditch Science-Technology and Engineering Divisions International Librarian Award*, was awarded to Ms. Geeta Paliwal. Geeta is currently pursuing her Post Graduate Diploma in Library and Networking from the Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) in New Delhi, India. She has a Masters of Philosophy (M.Phil) in Library and Information Science and an MLIS from the University of Delhi, and plans to pursue a Ph.D. in Library and Information Science. Geeta is currently working with Dr. P.K. Jain at the Institute of Economic Growth Library in Delhi, India. She has written many papers which have been presented and published in national and International conferences. Geeta joined SLA and became a member of the Science-Technology Division in 2009. In 2011 she won the "Early Career Award" that was sponsored by the Business & Finance Division and the Asian Chapter of SLA. This was

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European Southern Observatory

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& Security



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Lasers



Nano/Micro  
Technologies



Sensors

the first time she had attended an SLA Conference and was also the first time she had come to the United States.

This year at Dr. P.K. Jain's invitation, I had the privilege of attending the Library and Information Professionals Summit (LIPS) 2012 where Geeta Paliwal was a very active participant. She did an excellent job working with Dr. P.K. Jain and the other conference organizers in making this conference such a huge success. In addition to assisting in Award presentations and distributions at the conference, release of the conference proceedings, and helping to organize a beautiful Cultural Program as a delightful conclusion to the first day's events, Geeta also presented a paper that she had written with Dr. P.K. Jain entitled, "Leadership and Professionalism in Library and Information Services". This paper was also published in the LIPS 2012 Conference Proceedings.

Regarding our Longevity Awards, there were a total of 17 winners. I have placed the listing of all 17 Longevity Award Winners at the end of this Committee Report.

We had two Retiree Award Certificates – Susan Snyder and Dr. Robert Ballard.

For the past 22 years Susan Snyder has worked in the Catalog Department at Cuyahoga County Public Library, in Parma, Ohio. She retired this summer and her last day of work was June 29, 2012. She will not be able to attend the SLA Annual Conference this year because she will be preparing to present a workshop session on the Dewey decimal classification at the Church and Synagogue Library Association Annual Conference later in July. She expressed her gratitude for our interest in the members of our Division who are retiring.

Dr. Robert Ballard wrote to me in April 2012 to let me know that he was planning to retire at the end the semester this year. I spoke with him at the Annual Conference in Philadelphia last year and asked him to send me a summary (vita-review) of his life when he retired. He inserted this into his email and I have captured it below:

Dear Sheila:

AT SLA last June, you told me to send you a summary (vita-review) of my life when I retired. I am retiring at the end of this semester. I think

that it was you. If I have made a mistake, disregard.

I am a native of Atlanta Georgia. I graduated from Morehouse College with a major in history in 1958. I earned the MLS from Atlanta University in 1961, the MA in Education from Eastern Michigan University in 1969, and the PhD in Library Science from The University of Michigan in 1972. Living in Atlanta in the midst of the civil rights movement and moving to Ann Arbor, Michigan in the middle of the anti-Viet Nam war movement were the big events of my young adult life. The changes that we see in society today were shaped by those times and I am happy to have a part of them even as face in the crowd. I began my professional career as a academic librarian. In 1966, I accepted a position as librarian/Information Officer at the Great Lakes Research Laboratory of the United States Bureau of Commercial Fisheries, now a part of the United States Department of Commerce in Ann Arbor, Michigan. With my history background in a freshwater biology laboratory, I was overwhelmed. I sought help at what appeared to be a library similar to mine on the campus of The University of Michigan. I believe it was the School of Natural Resources. I walked in unannounced and there I met a young librarian by the name of Judith J. Field. Neither of us could have imagined that one day, she would become the President of the Special Libraries Association.

Judy changed my life. She told me one day, that we are going to the state meeting of the Special Libraries Association. I said, I am not a member. She said "I said you are going". It was a decision that I value to this day. Along the way, I have been a member of more than one division, but the one constant was the Science and Technology Division. In 1982, I became Editor of *Sci-Tech News*. When I stepped down in 1989, I was at that time the longest serving Editor of *Sci-Tech News*. It was a great honor to be awarded the Sci-Tech Division Achievement Award in 1990. There have been other honors or achievements along the way, but my association with SLA and the Sci-Tech Division has always figured prominently in my life and everything that I have done. I began my teaching career at the School of Librarianship at Western Michigan University. I established Special Libraries Association Authorized Student Groups at both Western Michigan University and North Carolina Central University. As time passed, I was always happy to meet these former students at SLA Annual Meetings. For 36 years now, I have been on the Faculty of the School of Library and Information Sciences at North Carolina Central. In 2003-2005, I served as Interim Dean. In 1977-78, I was a Fulbright-Hays Professor in the Department of Library Studies at the University of Zambia. I was very proud when two of my former

students from the University of Zambia chose to do their graduate work at North Carolina Central University. In May of 2011, I was invited to two out sourcing fairs in Chongqing and Mannshan, China. I presented a paper in Mannshan. In that presentation, I made reference in a PowerPoint to a paper that Jason Howard, a 2011 SLIS graduate had written for my Government Publications class. There is nothing that has made me prouder than having two former students Rebecca Varga and Doris Hefner run for President of the Special Libraries Association in the same year. Only one (Rebecca) could win. But I could not lose. Last June at our SLA Annual Meeting, I walked in to our opening general session just in time to hear Doris Hefner call my name as one of those that she gave thanks to as she accepted the Association's Hall of Fame award. So now I say thank you Doris. thank you SLA and thanks to all of my former students everywhere.

Sincerely,  
Robert M. Ballard  
Professor

Respectively submitted by Sheila L. Rosenthal,  
Chair, Science-Technology Division Awards  
Committee

2012 Science-Technology Division Awards Com-  
mittee Members:

Diane Brenes (Engineering Division Awards  
Chair- co-sponsors Bonnie Hilditch Award)  
Harish Chandra  
Cynthia Cohen  
Shantanu Ganguly  
P.K. Jain  
Debal Chandra Kar  
Kathy Nordhaus  
Susan Powell  
Sara Samuel  
Molly Tebo  
Cindy Xiang

17 Longevity Award Winners  
Susan Ardis – 25 years (1987)  
Roger Beckman – 25 years (1987)  
Linda Dodson – 30 years (1982)  
Josh Duberman – 25 (1987)  
Arthur Freed – 55 years (1957)  
Richard Hulser – 30 years (1982)  
Debra Kaufman – 25 years (1987)  
David Lane – 25 years (1987)  
Richard Leacy – 25 years (1987)  
Sharon Lieberman – 25 years (1987)  
Anita Newell – 55 years (1957)  
Wilda Newman – 40 years (1972)  
Rocco Piccinino – 35 years (1977)

Amanda Putnam – 30 years (1982)  
Suzanne Stanek – 30 years (1982)  
David Stern – 30 years (1982)  
Wei Wei – 25 years (1987)

### **Cataloging Liaison, SLA Sci-Tech Division**

Summary of Year's Events for 2012 Sci-Tech Di-  
vision, Board of Directors meeting

Thea Allen continues to serve as the Catalog-  
ing Liaison for the Sci-Tech Division. Any news  
pertaining to information about cataloging,  
RDA, FRBR, or other items related to catalog-  
ing are sent out to the members of the Sci-Tech  
Division's listserv.

### **SLA Sci-Tech Division Membership Com- mittee Report**

July 7, 2012

June 2012 data from Membership office lists  
DST as having 438 members. Compare to pre-  
vious years:

- May 2011: 460
- June 2010: 520
- June 2009: 554
- June 2008: 528
- June 2007: 594
- June 2006: 597

(Data from June 2011 Membership Committee  
report)

New members welcomed June 2011-May 2012:  
64

New members welcomed July 2010-April 2011:  
53 (compare to 85 from 7-2009 to 5-2010)

Newcomers lunch:

We have a full event of 15 people, and those of  
our award winners who can attend will be at-  
tending. Event is planned for Jimmy Green's at  
825 South State Street, Chicago, IL.

Ongoing initiatives:

- Quarterly lists of new members  
published in Sci-Tech News, beginning  
with the Fall 2010 issue
- Enhanced follow-up with lapsed  
members, providing opportunity for  
anonymous feedback on why members  
left and what we can do better—no new  
data

- Google maps representation of locations (city and country) of our membership: see wiki for more info.

New initiatives underway:

- Collaborating with Public Relations committee on writing a series of Mystery Member profiles on the listserv—planning for next profile will happen soon.
- Collaborating with Public Relations committee on other events/programs TBD.
- Collaborating with Student Relations Committee on existing and new outreach projects.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sarah Oelker ([soelker@mtholyoke.edu](mailto:soelker@mtholyoke.edu)), Membership Chair

### Government Relations Report

The Government Relations Committee has been monitoring the Public Policy Discussion Group and the Association of Research Libraries Influencing Public Policies. Topics of interest are distributed to Sci-Tech Division members via the list-serve.

That is my very brief report. I will not be able to attend the annual conference this year.

Regards,  
Karen Buxton  
SLA Sci-Tech Division, Government Relations Committee  
Pacific Northwest National Laboratory  
902 Battelle Boulevard  
P.O. Box 999, MSIN K1-18  
Richland, WA 99352 USA  
Tel: 509-375-2982  
Fax: 509-375-6550  
[karen.buxton@pnnl.gov](mailto:karen.buxton@pnnl.gov)  
<http://www.pnnl.gov>

### Public Relations Committee Report

This year the PR committee refocused its efforts to aiding sci-tech librarians with their interactions with a broad range of different publics.

Our listing of innovative and unusual sci-tech-librarian-led projects can be seen on the Sci-Tech website. It lists many examples of novel

ways to improve relations with different groups across campus that others may wish to emulate. It also includes a suggestion for explaining each project to administration to highlight the vital and innovative nature of sci-tech librarianship in the modern age.

Also available on the Sci-Tech website is a brief guide to open access for faculty: a document that gives the sci-tech librarian perspective to help them understand their publishing options.

A third project, also on the website, is a lists of reliable science news podcasts, each with a review detailing their strengths and weaknesses. A companion list of reliable science news websites is not quite ready for its unveiling. When complete, it is hoped that these lists will serve as a useful guide for faculty members who wish to include current scientific events in their curriculum and for students seeking aid in finding essay topics who lack the science information evaluation skills we have developed as sci-tech librarians.

Other projects in early stages include a guide to succeeding in science librarianship without a science background, with particular focus on the tricky issue of relating to science faculty. (This may be best done in the form of a roundtable discussion at SLA 2013.), a script (or possibly a presentation) for science librarians to use to talk about science information literacy at Science Cafes and other public science lecture venues and a best-practices document for doing a similar science info-lit talk for non-science-major classes.

Bill

William Jacobs  
Science and Engineering Librarian  
University of Miami  
[billjac@miami.edu](mailto:billjac@miami.edu)

### SciTech News

*SciTech News* continues to publish four electronic issues per year.

In April, Abby Bedford, Assistant Librarian at Grand Valley State University, was named Assistant Editor.

We continue to solicit submissions for the peer-

reviewed section, but have yet to receive any submissions. Please encourage fellow members of the contributing divisions and sections to submit papers for this section.

After receiving the back issues from 1989 through 2009 last fall and procuring issues from 1987 and 1988 this spring, Editor Abby Thorne has begun the process of digitizing the available back issues and uploading them to the *Sci-Tech News* website. At present the most recent two years of back issues (2008 and 2007) are available. She hopes to have the remaining issues uploaded by the end of the year.

Abby Thorne, Editor, STN

### **Student Relations Committee, SLA Sci-Tech Division**

Summary of Year's Events for 2012 Sci-Tech Division, Board of Directors meeting

#### *Membership*

The Student Relations Committee has had another great year. We had three returning members including myself, Sarah Oelker, and Becky Miller, and one new member, Tiffany Lopez.

#### *Ongoing Projects*

We have continued to work on promotional outreach activities to North American LIS programs, promoting and furthering the Mentoring Program, co-hosting and coordinating on the Newcomers Luncheon, promoting and advertising the Kirk Cabeen Student Travel Stipend, and are planning our annual student membership contest.

#### *SLA Annual Conference Buddy Program*

We decided to do our Buddy Program again this year at the SLA Annual Conference. Becky Miller took the lead on this project. We had 5 total volunteers to participate, which lead to 2 Buddy pairs being connected. We plan to follow up with them after the Conference to check in and see how things went.

#### *Mentoring Program*

The Mentoring Program is still ongoing. It has slowed down in the past few years. We continue to try to promote it on our listserv, in an email to new members, in *Sci-Tech News*, and on Twitter quarterly, if possible. Since last year's Annual meeting we have set up 2 men-

tees with mentors. We hope to continue promoting this program and hopefully generating more interest.

#### *Student Membership Contest*

We are looking at potentially revamping the Student Membership contest this year with a different contest prompt. We normally ask for new ideas from students with ideas on how best Sci-Tech could help or promote itself to students more. We love the ideas we get and we try to implement them each year, but we have found that it is sometimes impossible for us to implement or try all or any of them due to our already busy work schedules. We will be holding the contest later in the Fall.

#### *Resume Review*

Unfortunately we were unable to launch the Resume Review program last year due to different issues, but it is still a priority and we hope to be able to move forward with it in the future.

We welcome all suggestions and ideas, as well as new members to our Committee. Please contact Thea Allen at [theaallen@gmail.com](mailto:theaallen@gmail.com) 305 284-4059

### **ALA Liaison Report**

Liaison Report of major programs at the Science & Technology Section of ALA, Annual Conference, Anaheim, CA, June 22-26, 2012

Note: Attendance was 9 more people than attended ALA New Orleans in 2011 – 20,134.\*

The STS Anaheim program follows -- the schedule and notes created by Peter Larsen and Maribeth Slebodnik respectively:

#### *Saturday, June 23*

The Role of Metadata Standards in Scientific Data Publishing (Part II, continued from Midwinter): Enhancing access to scientific data sets has become a major goal of research funding efforts. Unless better care is taken to standardize the metadata and technical descriptors used to make them discoverable, there is a concern that these data sets might disappear within the corpus of "grey literature."

NIH Public Access Policy and the Library: Use, Development and Ramifications: This panel explored the diverse roles of librar-

ians in supporting the NIH Public Access Policy. Participants reviewed the NIHPA policy, PubMed Central submissions, and bibliographic management tools developed to help identify articles requiring PMC submission. They also discussed the benefits of this dramatic increase in PMC's freely available health science articles to researchers and libraries since 2008, alongside counter attempts by opponents hoping to derail the NIH Public Access Policy.

**Taking Instruction to the Next Level: Creating Evaluations to Assess Student Learning Online:** This program provided participants with a brief background in assessment methods as well as examples of assessments used specifically to evaluate online learning tools such as tutorials, course guides, course management systems, etc. Participants learned how to create effective assessments tailored to their needs, and examples of assessments used at several institutions to evaluate various online learning tools were shared.

**Publishing Undergraduate Research: Resources and Innovations from the Library:** This session was a discussion which addressed how science librarians could encourage undergraduates to publish and what kind of support could be offered for conducting research, writing and revising. Libraries could host contest or small conferences or panels, award prizes, and publicize achievements.

**Federal Science Agency Update:** The latest products and services from NASA, NTIS, and DOE were presented.

#### *Sunday, June 24*

**Changing Roles for Sci-Tech Liaison Librarians in Research, Outreach & Instruction:** Science & engineering subject specialists/liaisons are encountering dramatic shifts in terms of assigned duties and roles, and in terms of new expectations in the execution of the 'traditional' liaison roles. Results of 2 surveys were reported, one conducted by the Subject Librarian Task Force in 2011, to determine scope of current and future liaison work, and one conducted by the ACRL Information Literacy Standards Task Force to ascertain the future of library instruction.

**Research Forum in which 3 in-progress research papers were presented and evaluated:**

- "A Game Theoretical Exploration of Open Data and Open Science"

- "Exploring the Viability of Google AdWords as an adjunct Discovery Layer for the Science and Engineering Library"
- "Positioning Librarians as Leaders in E-Science and Data Management on Campus"

**Data Curation as a Form of Collaborative Research:** Data curation involves managing digital research data to facilitate access, dissemination, and preservation of information content and context. Librarians can engage with academic researchers in organizing, describing, and preserving research data from beginning to end of a project. This program examines data curation research opportunities for librarians, including the skills and knowledge needed for effective data curation; collaborative relationships between librarians and academic researchers; and approaches to data curation within the sciences, social sciences, and humanities.

**Nuts and Bolts of Map Scanning:** Scanning maps and making them available online presents many challenges for libraries and librarians. A panel of experts will discuss the details unique to scanning maps, including project planning and costs, tools and equipment, scanning and metadata standards, access strategies, copyright issues and more.

#### *Monday, June 25*

**Preparing Tomorrow's Science Professionals:** This program aimed at establishing a dialogue among science & technology librarians, faculty, and students, focusing on the issue of preparing today's students to become tomorrow's science professionals. The panel of librarians and faculty members explored the challenges professors face as they seek to educate emerging scientists, new outreach models for working with faculty on creating information and data literate researchers, and the ways librarians can work with science students to support their goals of becoming science professionals. The presentations were excellent, illustrating high level engagement with faculty and students in their respective universities: Dr. Bill Tomlinson, Informatics at UC Irvine; Jim Clark, Engineering Librarian at Miami Univ., Jon Jeffryes, Engineering Librarian at Univ. of Minnesota; Barbara MacAlpine, Science Librarian at Trinity Univ.; and Dr. John Rossi, Prof. Mol & Cell Biology and Dean, City of Hope.



Poster Session and Reception:  
Eleven posters on research topics also related to "Preparing Tomorrow's Science Professionals"

You can access a PDF version of the 2012 STS Program brochure at the following URL: <http://tinyurl.com/STS2012-program> from Edward Eckel, III

Here is a sample from the session:  
"Supporting the Sciences Without a Science Background" the poster by Kimberly Bailey [hanold@pitt.edu](mailto:hanold@pitt.edu)

#### Public Posts from ALA Connect

- STS College Science Librarians Discussion Group, June 23, 2012: Summary
- STS 2012 Strategic Plan (ACRL Plan for Excellence) report
- AAAS-Liaison-Report-2012
- STS Continuing Education Committee - Annual 2012 - Meeting Agenda
- Research Forum for Science & Technology Library Research
- Program Poster Session (ACRL STS)
- Federal Science Agency Update
- All Task Forces Meeting (ACRL STS)
- Taking Instruction to the Next Level: Creating Evaluations to Assess Student Learning Online
- All STS Member Meeting & Breakfast (ACRL STS)

These links and more information can be found at: [http://connect.ala.org/acrl\\_sts](http://connect.ala.org/acrl_sts) or <http://www.ala.org/acrl/aboutacrl/directoryof-leadership/sections/sts/acr-stsec>

The College Science Librarians had a creative discussion about projects geared to undergraduates that motivated and helped them to communicate by publishing. Their ideas and examples include: undergraduate science & technology journals, power point tutorials on assembling posters, practice in grant-writing, library awards, symposium participation, and production of a book with an honors class.

The Strategic Plan for STS has three major parts:

- Value of Academic Libraries
- Student Learning
- Research and Scholarly Environment

Notes from the full report: STSStrategicPlan-Report2012.doc

The first deals with establishing and proving the value of academic libraries by coupling their contributions with good institutional outcomes. The STS quarterly journal, *Issues in Science and Technology Librarianship* (ISTL), communicates scholarly work in science librarianship. Besides emphasizing "libraries as partners in research", accessibility of information and data, especially open access is an important concern. Other concerns are data management plans, ebook discovery systems, and allying academic librarianship with those touting the importance of higher education. There is a continuing need to develop responsive professional educational opportunities for librarians and especially programs for leadership skills.

To reach the second goal: the more creativity employed in designing new environments, the better to engage student learning. The emphasis is on creating new learning environments, both physical and virtual, new evaluation tools for the effectiveness of information literacy plans/programs, and building collaborative programs and partnership with other organizations. There are efforts to "build capacity for the librarians' role in supporting faculty development and the preparation of graduate students as instructors."

To promote research and a scholarly environment, sharing conference reports via webinars is being developed. *Issues in Science and Technology Librarianship* is STS' open - access journal.

There is promotion of interest in open digital scholarship and the curation of research data. STS will try to influence more open publishing policies and practices, and perhaps create and promote new structures that reward and demonstrate the value of open scholarship. The STS Scholarly Communications Committee has been formed to promote these goals. The STS Continuing Education Committee is also involved in similar issues plus data literacy and digital collections.

Development of metadata was addressed in a 2-part conference, "The Role of Metadata Standards in Scientific Publishing."

From the President's Message on page 5 in the July- August 2012 issue of *American Libraries*,

Maureen Sullivan quotes the ALA 2015 strategic plan's framework as being "a world where libraries, both physical and virtual, are central to lifelong discovery and learning and where everyone is a library user". (from Molly Raphael, out-going president)

AAAS – The American Association for the Advancement of Science – ALA Liaison

Alison Ricker attended and wrote the AAAS Liaison report for *Flattening the World: Building a Global Knowledge Society*, the theme of the AAAS Annual Meeting, held February 16-20, 2012 in Vancouver, B.C. Good discussion was generated at a Librarians' Caucus on improving science information literacy by presentations on collaborations among writers, faculty and librarians. The librarians at AAAS are included in the Information, Computing, and Communication Section (T). Alison and colleagues' poster was accepted and can be found here: Faculty, Librarian and Student Collaboration: Enhancing Science Teaching with Digital Collections <http://slidesha.re/NyRFyK>. Part of her responsibility was to promote interest in attending the AAAS Meeting -- with free registration!

From my (Louise Deis) notes:

Most of the sessions really were pertinent to academic librarians, and probably the overriding theme for all of us in SLA and ALA is keeping ourselves useful, relevant, and indispensable! There were excellent presentations by Gerald Steeman (NASA), Wayne Strickland (NTIS), and Tim Byrne (DOE) relevant to all. Science.gov is up to 50 databases and 2100 websites. Great strides are being made in digitization.

Data -- its management, curation, and visualization – are exciting and important topics. "Data deluge" was coined by Tony Hey. Check out *The Fourth Paradigm: Data-Intensive Scientific Discovery* here: <http://research.microsoft.com/en-us/collaboration/fourthparadigm/>

[default.aspx](#) . Some open data storage and management projects are: Harvard's Dataverse, Oxford's Dataflow, and Duracloud.

I learned about [www.worldwidetelescope.org](http://www.worldwidetelescope.org), and Layerscape its derivative which has allowed for the visualization and management of data in the following areas: geosciences, climatology, astronomy, oceanography, and life sciences. Chronozoom, conceived by Bill Gates and David Christian, depicts the history of the universe from the Big Bang through human history (the Big History Project): <http://chronozoom2.cloudapp.net/#/t55>

The significance of Cloud Computing is growing. Fred Kilgour has been credited with its invention. Banking, for example, has been in the cloud for a long time. Some journal services "would be impossible without the cloud". The cloud lends itself to the creating of large projects. Because of utilizing the cloud, more "citizen", participatory, science is theoretically possible.

The most fun was attending the final concert of the Rock Bottom Remainers. It was a benefit for the Scholarship Fund. There were poignant moments since they'd decided to disband after the recent death of their founder and member, Kathi Kamen Goldmark. Other members of the group were: Dave Barry, Amy Tan, Roy Blount, Jr., Stephen King, and Matt Groening, occasionally wearing a Marge Simpson mask. Everyone was singing along...and dancing as space permitted! There are a few videos on YouTube of their performances taken at ALA/Anaheim and other venues.

\*ALA Annual Conference 2012 Wrap-Up, *American Libraries*, July/August, 2012, p. 36. [AmericanLibrariesMagazine.org](http://AmericanLibrariesMagazine.org)

Louise Deis, SLA/ALA Liaison ❖