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From the Editor

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From the Editor

Spring is a most welcome season, no matter where you're located. The Maryland/DC area is no exception, with color bursting forth everywhere. From the pinks of the flowering trees to the brilliant yellows of the daffodils, renewal is invigorating.

At the Computers in Libraries 2006 conference this past March in Washington DC, there was great excitement and interest brewing about another type of renewal. The terms Web 2.0 and Libraries 2.0 were on many lips and on many minds, with questions about what they might portend for libraries, librarians and information professionals of all stripes.

Several speakers were comparing the current atmosphere to the 1995 period of intense innovation using Internet capabilities. Though comparisons to a potential dot.com bubble were also made, there were plenty of reminders that librarians are using all these new technologies to create new and exciting products for our customers. Be sure to check out the presentations at the CIL 2006 website. <http://www.infotoday.com/cil2006/presentations/>.

We're also often more knowledgeable than our customers, as became evident from the number of librarians at the CIL conference who are "teaching" their IT departments, academic students, and organization colleagues about blogs, wikis, RSS, social networks, and more. Just take a look at this year's SLA Annual Conference sessions. Each Division has provided a listing with their conference programs for June. I've already gotten extremely frustrated trying to figure out how I can be in at least 3 places at once!

Speaking of blogs, they are well represented throughout this issue of SciTech News. Betsy Aldridge, Co-Chair of the Materials Research and Manufacturing (MRM) Section, provides a valuable list of MRM-related blogs and blogging articles. Science blogs and wikis are included in Bob Buchanan's "Beyond the Chemistry Web" column.

Diane Brenes covers dictionaries and glossaries in her Web Reviews column. Several of her aerospace sites in the last issue were useful to me recently on an important research project. Let us know how SciTech News assists you in

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your workplace.

Earl Mounts includes a new journal on "Evidence Based Library and Information Practice" in his column this issue. Earl will be speaking at the conference on Wednesday at the Materials and Polymer Properties Update.

This issue is also full of important information related to the future of our Divisions. See the Science-Technology and the Engineering Division candidates' information. And note when the annual meetings will be held at the Conference for each Division. It's important for members to attend, listen, and give feedback to Division officers.

Christina Pikas starts us off with her introduction to the *Quoth the Raven...Baltimore* blog. Be sure to check this out for the "rest of the story" about Baltimore. There is a link to the blog on the Conference home page and the Maryland Chapter home page as well. <http://www.sla-maryland.blogspot.com/>. If you have any questions you'd like to pose, you can comment on one of the posts or send email to sla.maryland@gmail.com. There's already great information about places of interest for kids, side trips to Annapolis, DC and elsewhere, knitting and bookstores, and trivia questions for you to investigate.

I hope you've also seen the excellent article written for *Information Outlook* by our local arrangements chair Edna Paulson with Mary Woodfill Park. Makes me very proud and happy to be a "Baltimorean" - or at least a suburban neighbor.

We also want to welcome a new advertiser to this issue, East View Information Services. As you will see from several "thank you's" in this issue, vendors are extremely important to the success of our publications and our conference. I add my appreciation to all our faithful SciTech News advertisers.

Hope to see you in Baltimore in June. ❖

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